SAYONARA, ZETSUBOU-SENSEI

THE POWER OF NEGATIVE THINKING VOLUME 10

KOJI KUMETA

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The Power of Negative Thinking 10

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THE STORY SO FAR

Our hero takes the stage, unable to totally brush off the pressing request from John Mazzo as a senseless pipe dream. However, he is forced to sing the boy soprano part, ruining his vocal cords, and in two minutes is booed off stage. He snubs the chanson concert he had been planning for the following week, retreating in disappointment to the forest of pianos (which was actually Manga no Mori). He is forced to take a numbered ticket and wait in line at a signing event, and immediately the man in front of him strikes up a conversation. He grows weary of the man's endless barrage of (the recently trendy) "otaku pride." For example, comments like: "I've heard that in France, manga is the ninth art form!" When the conversation turned to the viewer rates of Grendizer, it was finally his turn, and before him stood none other than Shiina-sensei, who had changed his name to "Maple Pinpin."

"What on earth are you doing?"

"Err... it's a long story..." And with that, he began telling a story of a clock tower of darkness, made of rejected manuscripts and raw meat, which informs him of his deadlines. At that moment, our hero hears an otherworldly bell toll in the distance.

"Run! The green people are coming!"

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Kodansha Comics books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Kodansha Comics not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Kodansha Comics books.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/

Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

Koji Kumeta

SAYONARA ZETSUBOU-SENSEI 10

The Power of Negative Thinking

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Chapter 91 - If you work by reason, you grow rough-edged;
if you choose to oar into sentiment's stream,
it will sweep you away. Demanding your own way
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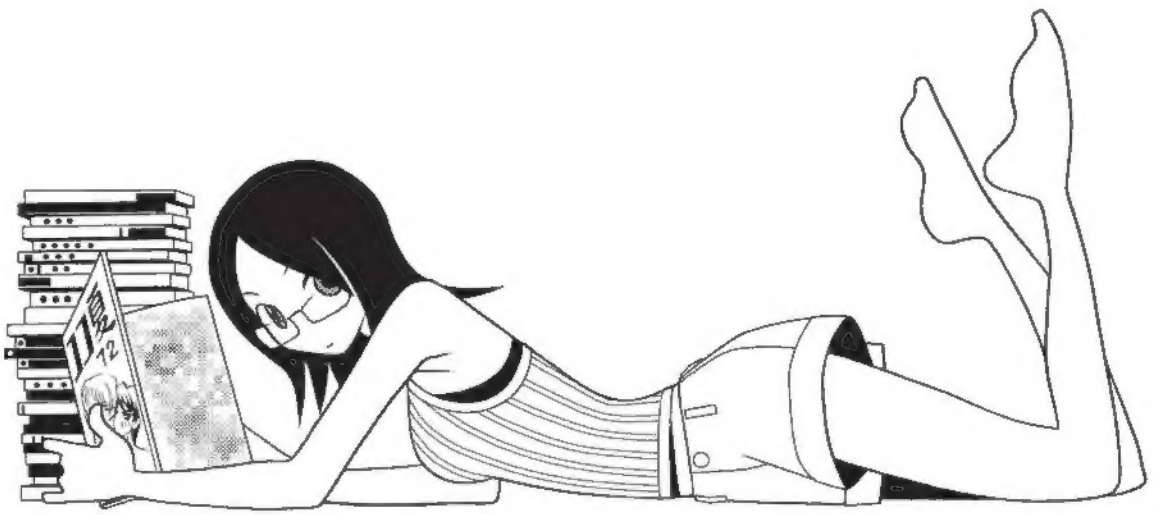


ITOSHIKI FAMILY TREE

CAST OF CHARACTERS 1

MAJIRU ITOSHIKI
CURRENTLY LIVING WITH
NOZOMU ITOSHIKI

FIRST SON
ENISHI ITOSHIKI

WIFE
TAE ITOSHIKI

HEAD OF THE FAMILY
HIROSHI ITOSHIKI

FOURTH SON
NOZOMU ITOSHIKI
PROFESSOR NEGATIVE

SECOND SON
KEI ITOSHIKI
SELF-COMPLETING ARTIST

FIRST DAUGHTER
RIN ITOSHIKI
ITOSHIKI-STYLE IKEBANA INSTRUCTOR

THIRD SON
MIKOTO ITOSHIKI
DOCTOR AT ITOSHIKI HOSPITAL

TOKITA
ITOSHIKI FAMILY'S BUTLER

Cast of Characters

Friday, September 14, 2007 Day Duty — Jun Kutou, Chiri Kitsu

MATOI TSUNETSUKI
STALKER GIRL

KAERE KIMURA
(ALSO KAEDE)
BILINGUAL GIRL WITH SPLIT PERSONALITY

KAFUKA FUURA
SUPERPOSITIVE GIRL

NAMI HITOU
ORDINARY GIRL

MANAMI OKUSA
HIGH SCHOOL HOUSEWIFE WITH MULTIPLE DEBTS

ABIRU KOBUSHI
TAIL FETISH GIRL; THOUGHT TO BE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

MERU OTONASHI
POISON TONGUED EMO GIRL

HARUMI FUJIYOSHI
FANTETISHIST GIRL; ADDICTED TO COUPLING

KIRI KOMORI
HIKIKOMORI GIRL

MAYO MITAMA
GIRL WHO IS EXACTLY HOW SHE LOOKS

AI KAGA
DELUSIONAL SELF-BLAMER

KOTONOHA
INTERNET IDOL

KAGEROU USUI
HEAD OF THE CLASS

CHIRI KITSU
METHODICAL AND PRECISE GIRL

2-F Homeroom Teacher

糸色 望 (いとしき のぞむ)

"Nozomu Itoshiki"

Warning! Do not write these characters too close to one another!

Professor Negative

IKKYU-SAN
AN OLD FRIEND OF NOZOMU ITOSHIKI
ONE-DAY FRIEND

One-Day Friend

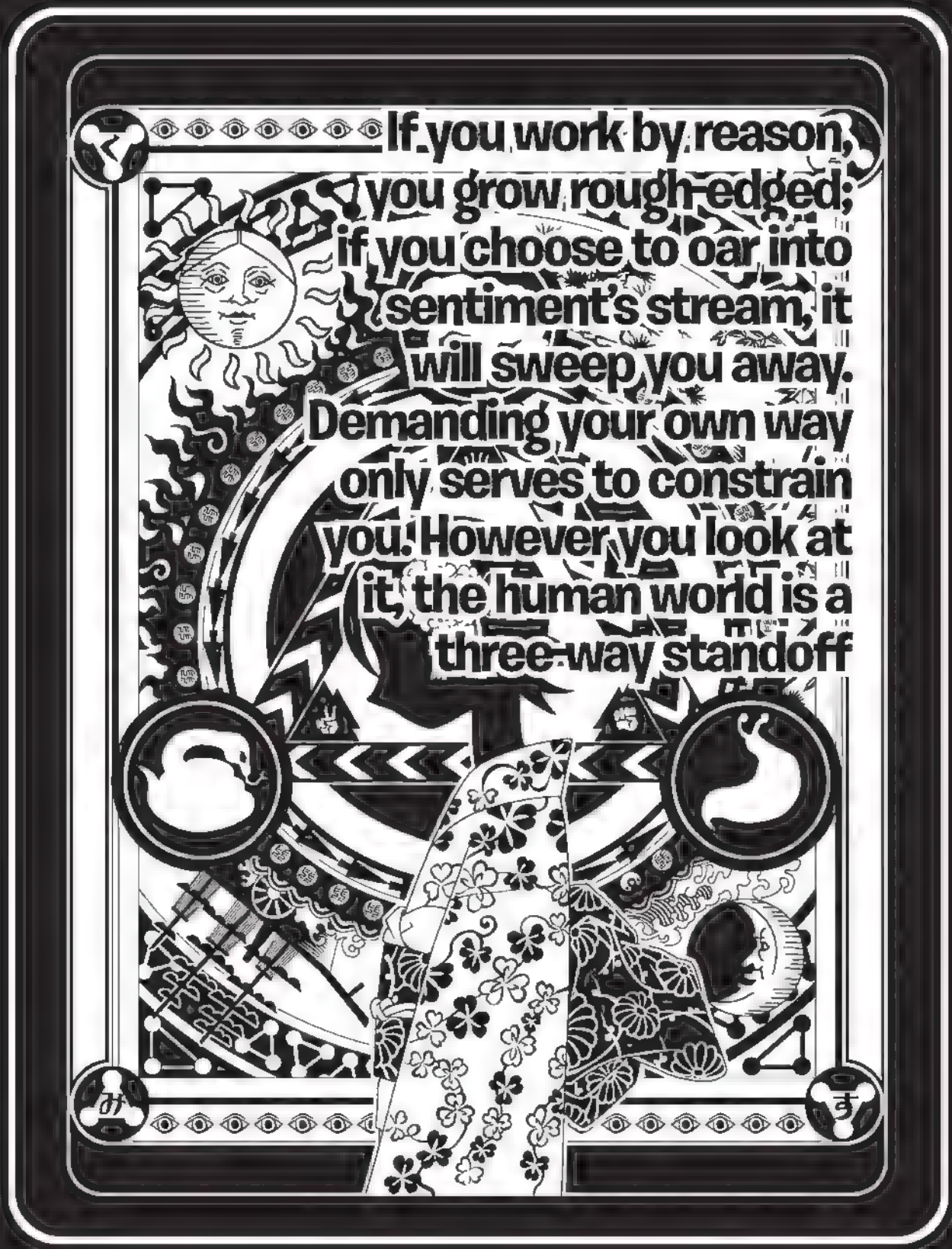
KAFUKA FUURA
ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT; REFUGEE GIRL

JUN KUTOU
A GENIUS STORYTELLER

Rival

KUNIYA KINO
LIBRARY COMMITTEE MEMBER
HATES LOSING

WATARU MANSEIBASHI
HARDCORE OTAKU
2-HO (CLASS NEXT DOOR)


If you work by reason, you grow rough-edged; if you choose to oar into sentiment's stream, it will sweep you away. Demanding your own way only serves to constrain you. However you look at it, the human world is a three-way standoff

CHAPTER 91

SENSEI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SHHH.
YOU'LL DISTURB THE EQUILIBRIUM.

STARE
SNAKE... FROG... SLUG...
IT'S A THREE-WAY STANDOFF.
NONE OF THEM CAN MAKE THE FIRST MOVE!
THE FROG IS SCARED OF THE SNAKE. THE SNAKE IS SCARED OF THE SLUG. AND THE SLUG IS SCARED OF THE FROG.
IT'S A COMMON SIGHT IN THE NATURAL WORLD... PARTICULARLY IN THE HUMAN WORLD.
INDEED.
SO IT'S AN ACTUAL PHE-NOMENON?

KITSUNE-KEN IS THE SAME.
AND THE FOXES MAKE FUN OF THE VILLAGE HEADMAN.
CASH
ボワン
POOF
THE VILLAGE HEADMAN HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE HUNTSMAN.
THE FOX IS WEAK AGAINST THE HUNTSMAN.
ヴァン
BOOM
A LOT OF JAPANESE CARD GAMES ARE BASED ON THE SAME PRINCIPLE.
ATTACK
BLOCK
THROW
SWORD
AXE
SPEAR
FIRE
WATER
GRASS
IT'S BASICALLY LIKE ROCK-PAPER-SCISSORS.
DEVIL
CHARM
ANGEL
...HOWEVER, MOST OFTEN IN SOCIETY...
すっ
TURN
THE LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL, AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES FORM THE BASIS OF OUR COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT THROUGH CHECKS-AND-BALANCES.
LEGISLATIVE
EXECUTIVE
JUDICIAL
A TENSE THREE-WAY STANDOFF IN A BAND CAN PRODUCE MAJOR HITS.
Key
G.
Vo.
AS LONG AS THE TENSION IT PRODUCES PRESERVES THE EQUILIBRIUM.
AND THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH IT.

SLIP
WH-
TH-
...WE SEE FAILED THREE-WAY STANDOFFS!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SENSEI?
AAGGH!
OWWW...
LET'S LET SLEEPING DOGS LIE AND GET OUT OF HERE.
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF RUINS.
HM?
WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT? THERE'S SOMEONE HERE!?

THIS IS AN OFF-LIMITS AREA, BIG BROTHER.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IT IS SAID THAT THE THREE-WAY STANDOFF STATUES OF LEGEND ARE BURIED HERE SOMEWHERE.
THIS IS THE ANCIENT THREE-WAY STANDOFF TOMB.
AH!
LADY RIN, I HAVE A FEELING WE'LL STRIKE GOLD UP AHEAD.
ドッピ
ゴゴゴゴ
ガラ ガラ
CRUMBLE
THUMP
CRASH
CRASH
CRASH
CRASH
SHATTER
TAP
ぷぴ
TH-... THIS IS...
IT WAS AN OBVIOUS SETUP!
YOU HAVE GOD'S TOUCH, LADY RIN!

AND THE MOTHER-IN-LAW HAS A SOFT SPOT FOR HER SON!

THUMP

THE BRIDE GETS PICKED ON BY THE MOTHER-IN-LAW!

PICK

NIT

THE GROOM DOES WHATEVER THE BRIDE TELLS HIM TO!

NAG NAG

...A STATUE OF THE THREE-WAY STANDOFF BETWEEN BRIDE, GROOM, AND MOTHER-IN-LAW!!

WIFE

MOTHER-IN-LAW

HUSBAND

MOTHER-IN-LAW STABBED

Unable to withstand abuse

KEEP OUT

...IT LEADS TO TRAGEDY!

BUT IF JUST ONE OF THEM IS LOST, OR BECOMES TOO STRONG...

IT SEEMS THAT WITH ALL THREE, THE EQUILIBRIUM IS JUST BARELY PRESERVED.

OH... THERE'S SOMETHING HERE, TOO.

THESE AREN'T ACTUAL RUINS, REMEMBER?

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION HAS PROVEN MY HYPOTHESIS!

IT'S A FAILED THREE-WAY STANDOFF!

THE BIG-SISTER-FOR-RENT CAN'T SAY NO TO THE PARENTS!

SEE YOU AGAIN

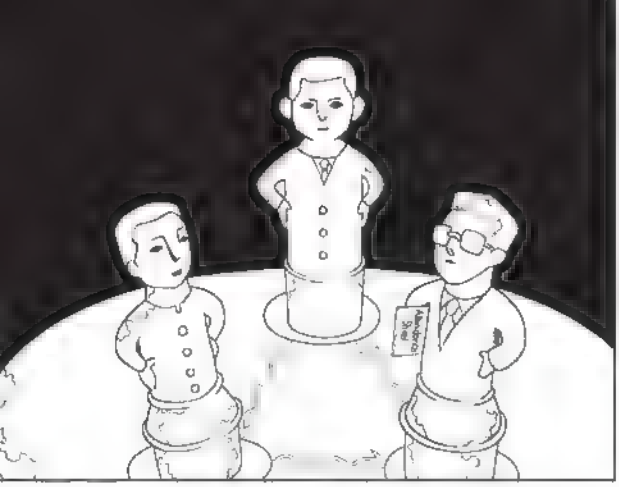
THE *HIKIKOMORI* SON IS SCARED OF THE BIG-SISTER-FOR-RENT!

STARE

COME TO THE DINNER TABLE.

THE PARENTS ARE SCARED OF THE *HIKIKOMORI* SON!

IT'S A STATUE OF THE THREE-WAY STANDOFF BETWEEN A HIKIKOMORI, HIS PARENTS, AND A BIG-SISTER-FOR-RENT!

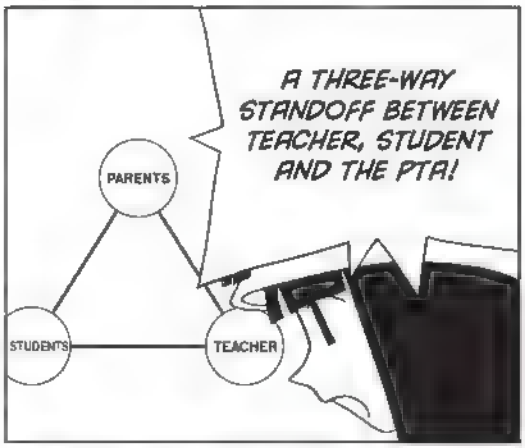


PERHAPS YOU'LL BE ABLE TO RELATE PERSONALLY TO THIS ONE?
ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF A THREE-WAY STANDOFF WITH PROBLEMATIC SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS!

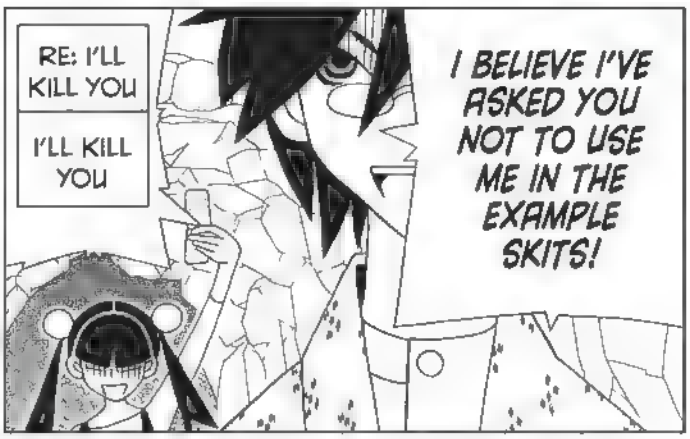
AND PARENTS GO STRAIGHT TO TEACHERS TO COMPLAIN!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF AN EDUCATOR?

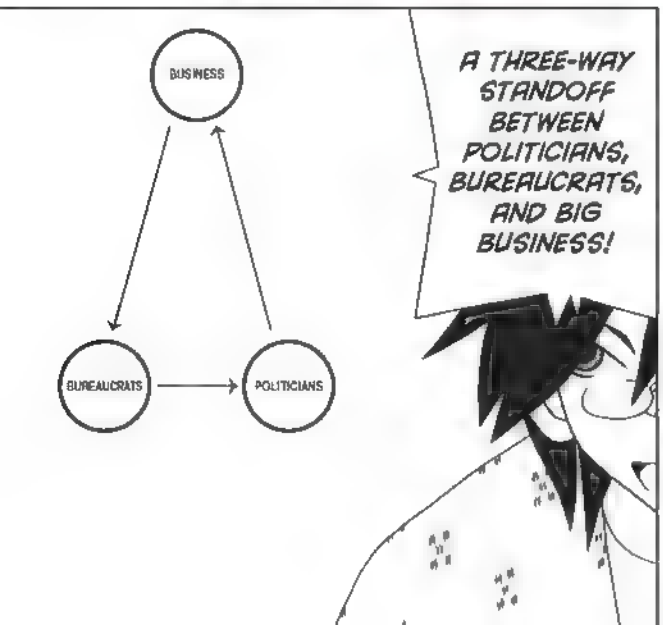
STUDENTS ACT OUT AGAINST THEIR PARENTS AT HOME!
SPLAT

THE TEACHER CONTROLS WHAT GOES ONTO THE STUDENT'S RECORD!
HE HE HE
Record


A THREE-WAY STANDOFF BETWEEN TEACHER, STUDENT AND THE PTA!
PARENTS
STUDENTS
TEACHER

STUDENTS
PARENTS
TEACHER
BUT RECENTLY THE STUDENTS HAVE GOTTEN STRONGER, DISTURBING THE BALANCE AND...


RE: I'LL KILL YOU
I'LL KILL YOU
I BELIEVE I'VE ASKED YOU NOT TO USE ME IN THE EXAMPLE SKITS!


BUSINESS
BUREAUCRATS
POLITICIANS
A THREE-WAY STANDOFF BETWEEN POLITICIANS, BUREAUCRATS, AND BIG BUSINESS!

HERE'S ANOTHER TYPICAL EXAMPLE OF THE PHENOMENON.

GRADE COLLAPSE
...LEADING TO TRAGEDY!
Teacher Gives Up
No Respect

AH, NOW *THIS* BRINGS BACK MEMORIES.

ONO

THE 2006 WORLD CUP "GOLDEN MIDFIELD" THREE-WAY STANDOFF!

WELL, IT'S ALSO TRUE THAT THIS PARTICULAR RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN STABLE FOR A LONG TIME.

THAT'S THE DANGEROUS PART! THE STABILITY!

ONE OF THEM WAS FUKUNISHI (THE GUY WHO CARRIED THE WATER).

WASN'T THE "GOLDEN MIDFIELD" FOUR PEOPLE?

...AND IN THE END, NO ONE COULD MOVE FORWARD.

THEY ALL WORKED TO BLOCK ONE ANOTHER...

THE THREE TRIANGLES OF BOYS' MANGA!

力 努 勝 利 友 情

FRIENDSHIP, DETERMINATION, AND TRIUMPH.

THIS ONE IS A PERFECT THREE-WAY STANDOFF!

OVERPOWERING THE OTHERS, DISTURBING THE BALANCE, AND...

力 努 勝 利 友 情

RECENTLY, HOWEVER, "FRIENDSHIP" HAS GROWN STRONGER...

AS LONG AS THE EQUILIBRIUM IS PRESERVED.

THIS IS A GOOD THREE-WAY STANDOFF.

HOODLUMS SPORTS MOE

WELL, IT SEEMS MANY PUBLICATIONS ARE ENCOUNTERING THIS PROBLEM.

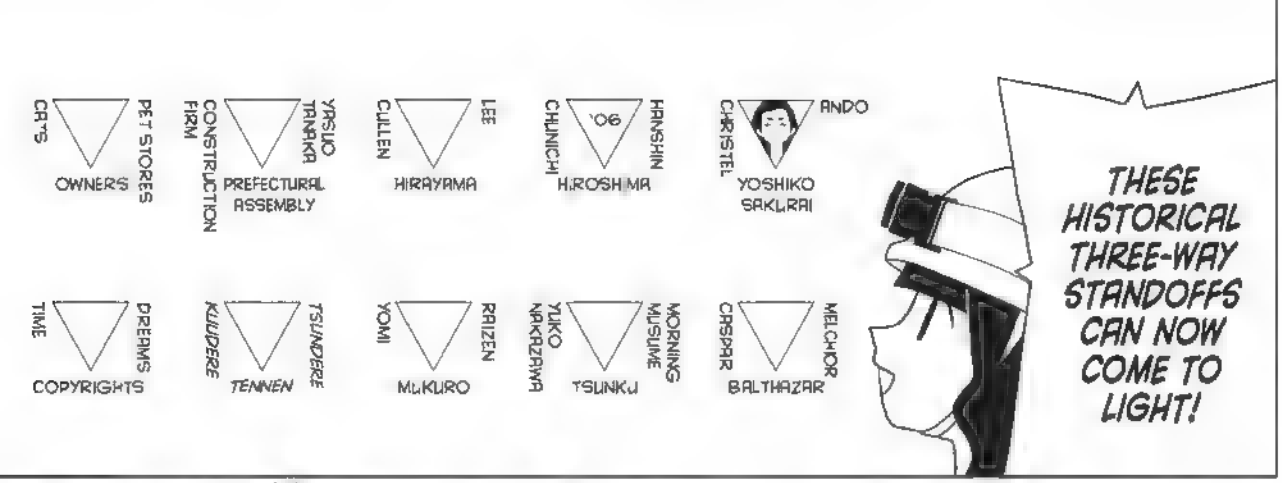
WE'VE EXCAVATED MANY OTHER STATUES OF THREE-WAY STANDOFFS.

YOUR OPINION IS BIASED!

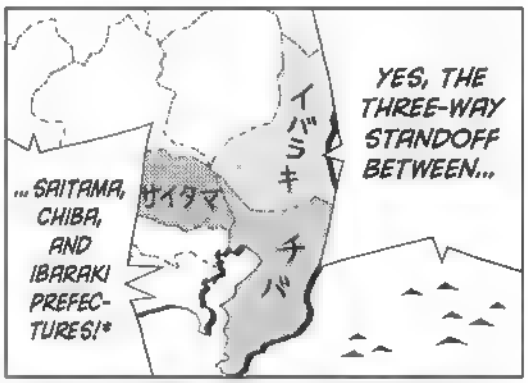
ふしぎ Beautiful Ice Boys Naruinaru Naruto

WHEEZE

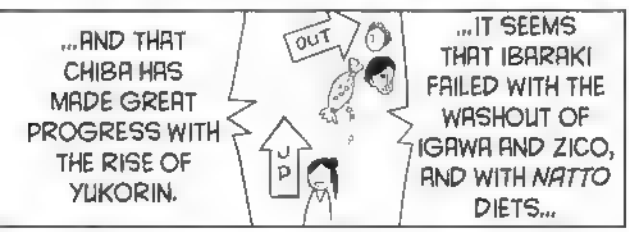
...BECOMING SOMETHING WONDERFUL!

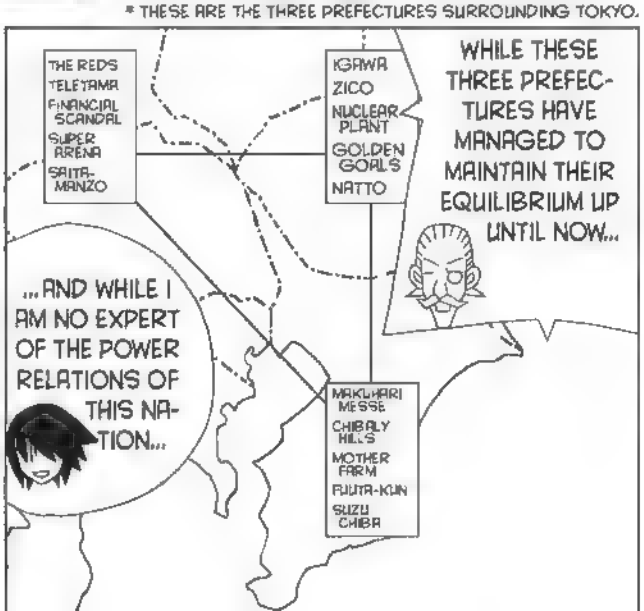


WOULDN'T CHIBA HAVE THE ADVANTAGE WITH THE AIRPORT AND THAT THEME PARK?
UNFORTUNATELY, THINGS ASSOCIATED WITH TOKYO ARE NOT COUNTED.



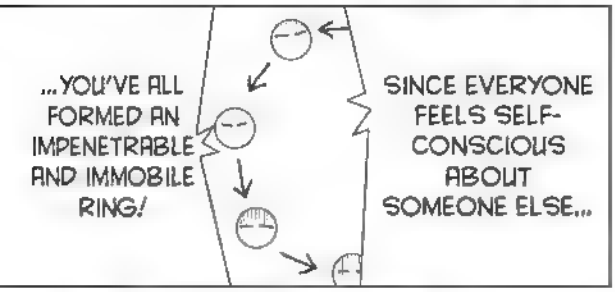
* THESE ARE THE THREE PREFECTURES SURROUNDING TOKYO.

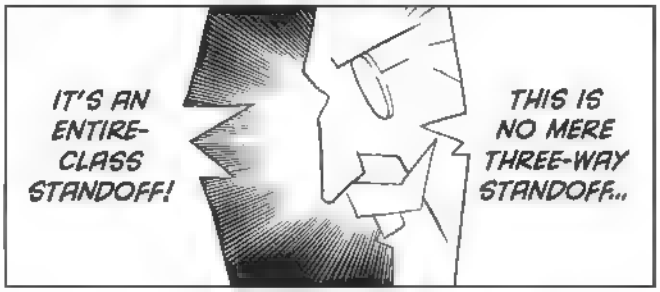

...AND THAT CHIBA HAS MADE GREAT PROGRESS WITH THE RISE OF YUKORIN.
OUT
UP
...IT SEEMS THAT IBARAKI FAILED WITH THE WASHOUT OF IGAWA AND ZICO, AND WITH NATTO DIETS...



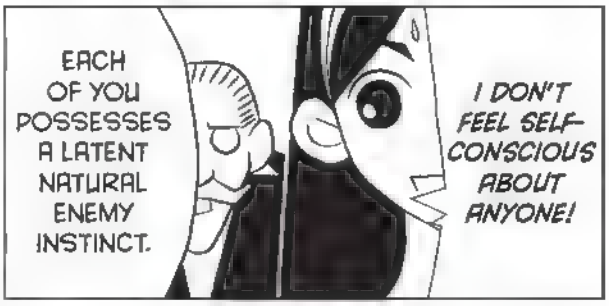
AND BESIDES, THAT'S NOT AN EXIT.
BIG BROTHER! YOU'RE SUCH A CHICKEN!
DASH
WE'VE GOT TO RUN!
HE RAN OFF THAT WAY AND DISAPPEARED.
HUH? WHERE'S SENSEI?
THAT'S ALL IT TAKES?
ANYWAY, WE CAN PRESERVE THE EQUILIBRIUM BY MOVING YUKORIN'S HOUSE TO IBARAKI.
SENSEI...!
SENSEI...!
SENSEI...!
I WONDER WHAT THIS ROOM IS.
FLASH
FREEZE

I'M FROZEN AND CAN'T MOVE MY BODY!
カチン
FREEZE
FREEZE ガチン
ガチン FREEZE
WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?


...YOU'VE ALL FORMED AN IMPENETRABLE AND IMMOBILE RING!
SINCE EVERYONE FEELS SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT SOMEONE ELSE...


IT'S AN ENTIRE-CLASS STANDOFF!
THIS IS NO MERE THREE-WAY STANDOFF...

ゴゴゴゴ
VO-VO-VO-VOO
AND IT APPEARS THAT SOME POWER IN THESE RUINS IS AMPLIFYING THAT INSTINCT.


EACH OF YOU POSSESSES A LATENT NATURAL ENEMY INSTINCT.
I DON'T FEEL SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT ANYONE!

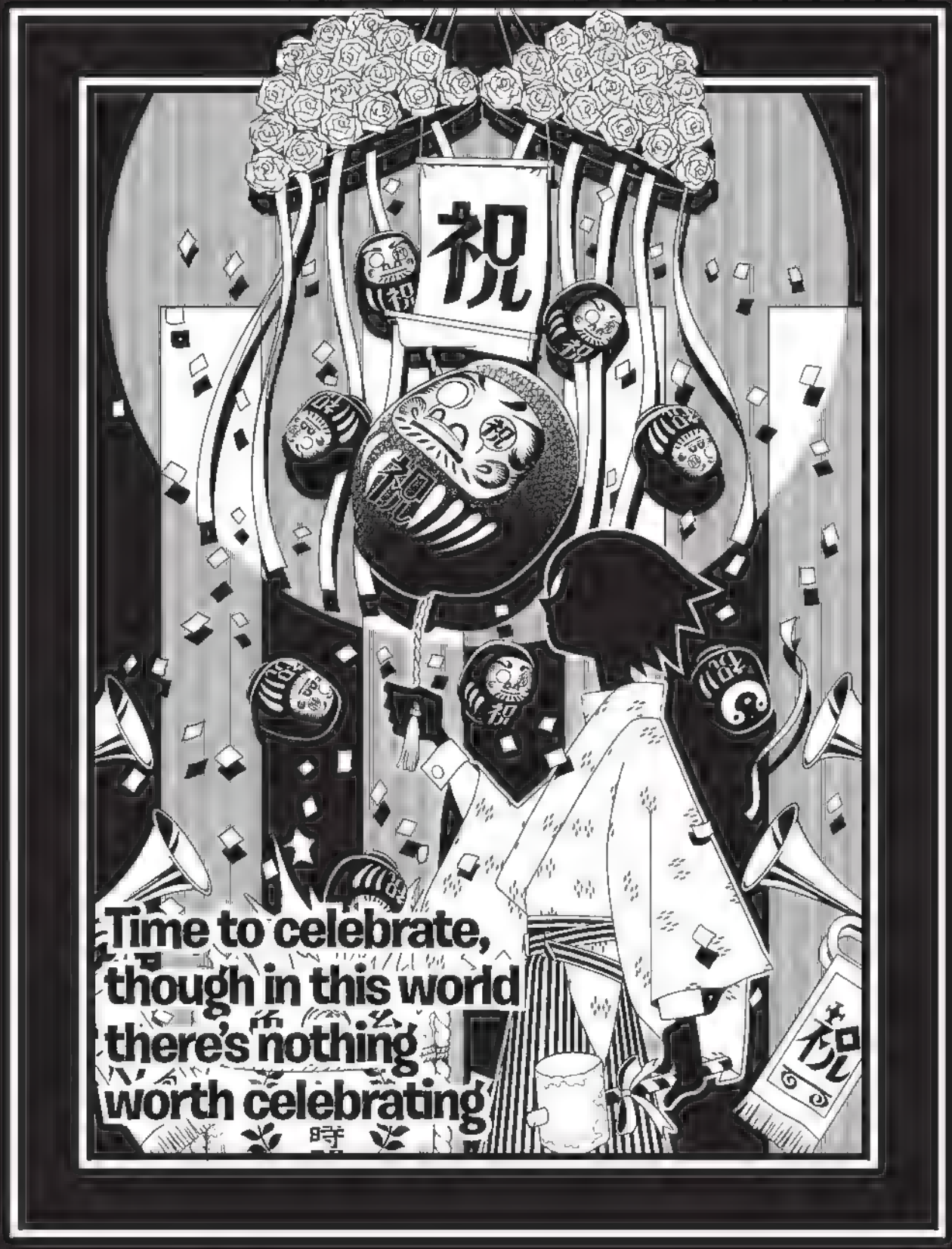
...TO BREAK THIS RING OF ENEMY INSTINCT!
THERE IS ONE WAY...

WE'RE TOTALLY STUCK!
FREEZE
コチン
コチン
SO WHAT'RE WE GONNA DO?

...AND ADD HIM OR HER TO THE RING!
WE JUST NEED TO FIND SOMEONE CLEARLY WEAKER THAN ALL OF US...

OH... THERE YOU ALL ARE.
ほわあああっ
VWOOSH
STEP
すっ
WE ESCAPED FROM OUR STANDOFF!
ほわあ
AAAH MMMM
あぁ
ERP.
...NEED OUR TEACHER AFTER ALL!
I GUESS WE REALLY DO...
HE'D BE SO DEPRESSED IF HE KNEW THE TRUTH.
DID SOME-THING GOOD HAPPEN THAT I MISSED?
じーん
GAPE
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EARS. WAS THAT A COMPLI-MENT?

SUNDAY
KAI
IF YOU DO A SERIES IN *JUMP* NEXT, THE THREE-WAY STANDOFF WILL BE COMPLETE.
?
MAGAZINE
ZETSU
SO WHY'D YOU SAY IT THEN, HUH!?
...WOULD EVER SAY THAT LINE.
WELL, I SAID IT... THOUGH I DOUBT MY CHARACTER, AS SUPER-POSITIVE AS SHE IS...

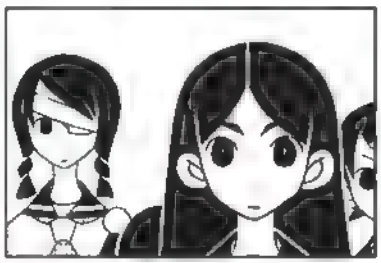

祝
Time to celebrate,
though in this world
there's nothing
worth celebrating
時
祝

CHAPTER 92

BOOKS
SHINKO BOOKSTORE
STORE NO. 7
Don't give up. You can do it!
A BRIGHT AND SHINY
NINTH GRADER
FINALLY
THE UNLIKELY
KENTUCKY
New Dramatization!
New!!
Anime Adaptation!
"G.P Ace the GPS Cop"
NEW
Anime Adaptation!
LET'S GPS!
New! Anime Adaptation!
Celebrating Anime Adaptation!!
Super highly-acclaimed serialization in Garagara Comic Magazine
It's called GPS because it tell's you your global position!!
CELEBRATING... ANIME ADAPTATION...

...TO "CELEBRATE?"
WHAT GIVES THEM THE RIGHT...

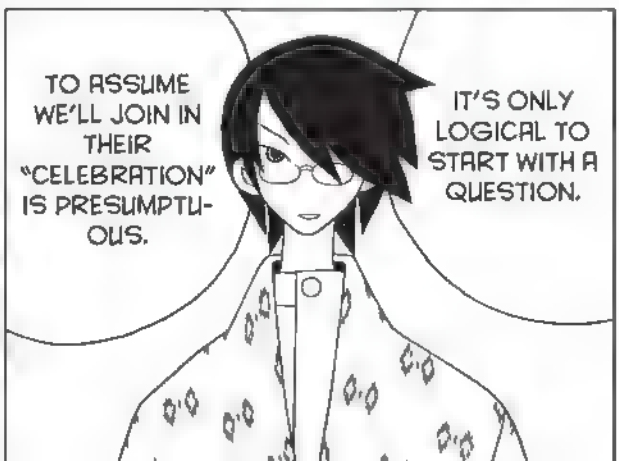
IF SOMEONE'S GOING TO CELEBRATE, SHOULDN'T IT BE THE READERS OF THE MANGA?
HUH?



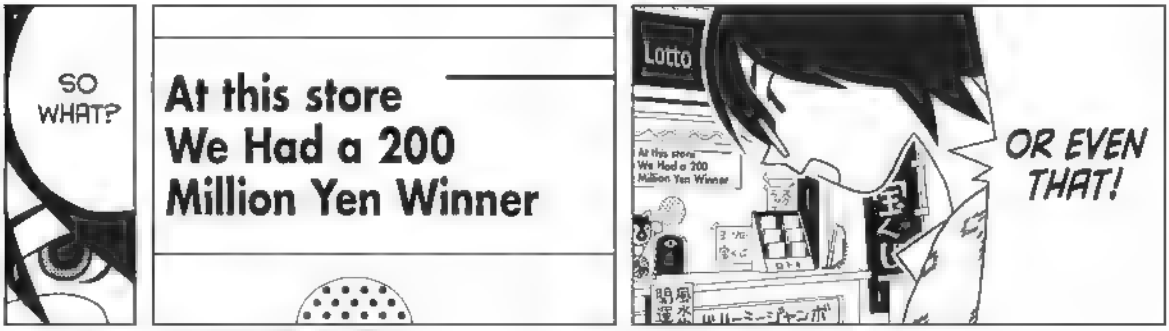
THEY SHOULD SAY, "ANIME ADAPTATION... HOW ABOUT IT?" OR...
IF THEY'RE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING...
ANIME ADAPTATION... HOW ABOUT IT?
"ANIME ADAPTATION... HOPE YOU'RE DOING WELL?"

PLUS, THEY SHOULD REALIZE THAT SOME READERS MIGHT NOT CARE ABOUT THE ANIME.
WELL, I *GUESS* SOME READERS MIGHT NOT CARE...

FOR EXAMPLE,
IS THIS AN INDIRECT APOLOGY?


TO ASSUME WE'LL JOIN IN THEIR "CELEBRATION" IS PRESUMPTUOUS.
IT'S ONLY LOGICAL TO START WITH A QUESTION.

Celebrating Our Marriage!
THIS IS AN IMAGE
WIFE – NATSUKO
...SENT YOU A POSTCARD SAYING, "CELEBRATING OUR MARRIAGE!"?
Celebrating Our Marriage!
WOULDN'T IT BE STRANGE IF AN ACQUAINTANCE...
PEOPLE ARE SUCH GIANT BUNDLES OF EXHIBITIONISM!
I GUESS MOST PEOPLE JUST SAY, "WE GOT MARRIED."
WE'RE THE ONES WHO SHOULD BE CELEBRATING, RIGHT!?
ALL FOR A SMUG SENSE OF SATISFACTION!
IT'S ONE-SIDED SELF-ASSERTION!
I GUESS THERE COULD BE.
I MEAN, THERE COULD BE READERS WHO HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN READING FOR A SINGLE YEAR!
WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT THAT!?
MAGAZINE
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
YOU PRINT, "CELEBRATING 50 YEARS" ON THE COVER...
SOME PEOPLE BUY THREE.
AS A CUSTOMER, I BOUGHT EXACTLY ONE COPY!
WOW, YOU GUYS MUST LOVE TO CELEBRATE!
Celebrating 10 Million Copies Sold
OR "CELEBRATING 10 MILLION COPIES SOLD"...



* APPROXIMATELY $2 MILLION

HOW CAN WE PROMOTE OURSELVES AFTER THAT HUGE RANT?
...YOU'LL NEED TO LEARN HOW TO "SELL YOURSELF!"
WHEN YOU GO TO YOUR FIRST JOB INTERVIEW...
THAT SOUNDS WRONG.
WELL THEN EVERYONE, PLEASE "SELL YOURSELF" TO ME.
I CAN'T DO SOMETHING SO TASTELESS!
SELL MYSELF?
HERE.
MATH B
Hami Hitou
ON THE ANSWER SHEET FOR THE LAST TEST.
ME?
WHEN!
I BELIEVE YOU'VE ALREADY DONE IT, IN FACT.
...TO CONVINCE ME OF ALL OF THE TOUGH CALCULATIONS YOU MADE.
YOU ADDED SEVERAL COMMENTS OUTSIDE OF THE ANSWER BOXES...
FIND SIN 225° (3 POINTS) THE ANSWER. (3 POINTS)
..I'm really not sure..
One of these!
Additive Theorem
Up to this point I'm positive, but...
NO, NO.

はぷん
GULP
I BELIEVE THIS AMOUNTS TO SELLING YOURSELF.
DON'T CALL ME "WORMAL"!!
IT'S TOTALLY NORMAL TO DO THAT.
NO I WASN'T!
YOU WERE SELLING ME YOUR EFFORT, HOPING FOR AN EXTRA 0.5 POINTS.
...BY STANDING ON TOP OF BEER CASES LIKE THAT.
IT'S CERTAINLY TRUE THAT SOME ENKA SINGERS SELL THEIR HARD-SHIPS...
OOH... INSIDE THE SHIPPING CONTAINERS... ALL MY FRIENDS DIED
BRAVING THE ROUGH SEAS
SWERVE
てれんこ
SWERVE
てれんこ
だっだっだっ
TAP
TAP
TAP
?
GLANCE
すー
SLIDE
ガラッ
SORRY!
KIRIN BEER
キリンビール

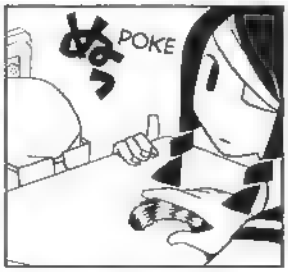
PANT
はー
PANT
はー
I'M SORRY I'M LATE.
WHEEZE
せー
WHEEZE
せー
PANT PANT
はー
はー
I DIDN'T MAKE IT...
.....
WHO IS SHE, HIDE-TOSHI NAKATA?
SHE'S CRYING!
PANT
はー
PANT
はー
DON'T BRING THAT UP NOW!
...WITHOUT EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT!
THIS IS, AFTER ALL, THE SAME GIRL WHO RAN STRAIGHT TO ARIAKE THAT TIME THE TRAIN BROKE DOWN IN AKI-HABARA...
IT'S SO OBVIOUS.
SHE'S TRYING TO ACT LIKE SHE RAN REALLY HARD TO GET HERE.
HEH-HEH... IT SEEMS THE TIME HAS FINALLY COME FOR ME TO MAKE MY PRESENCE KNOWN TO THIS CLASS!

がらっ!!
SLIDE

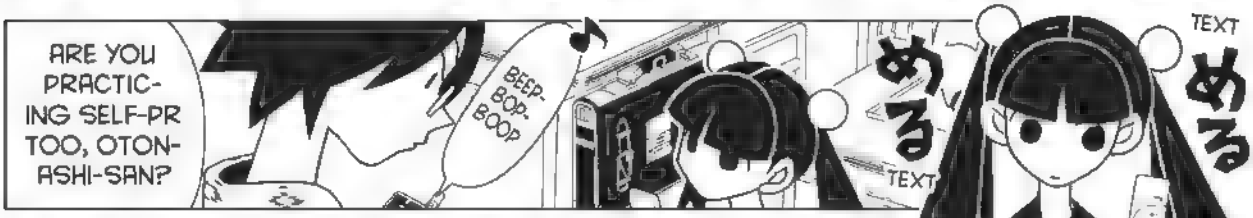
しーん
SHAFT
SILENCE

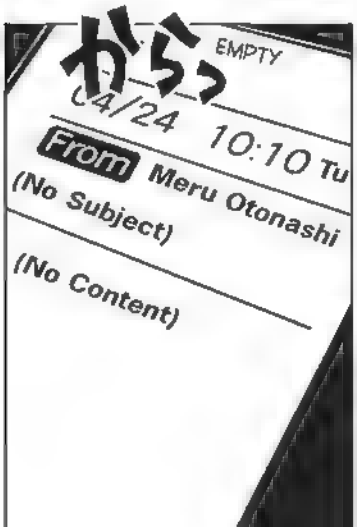
やんや
LET ME TOUCH! LET ME TOUCH!
HEY, YOU FINALLY DID IT
PRAISE
やんや
PRAISE
FEEL MY PRES-ENCE!
WOW!
GEEZ.
YOU STAND OUT!

たたっ
DASH
I SHAVED MY HEAD AND STILL NOBODY NOTICES ME!


ぬっ
POKE

ずいっ
SLIP


ARE YOU PRACTIC-ING SELF-PR TOO, OTON-ASHI-SAN?
BEEP-BOP-BOOP
める
TEXT
TEXT
める


からっ
EMPTY
04/24 10:10 Tu
From Meru Otonashi
(No Subject)
(No Content)

BEEP-BA-DEE-BOP-BOOP

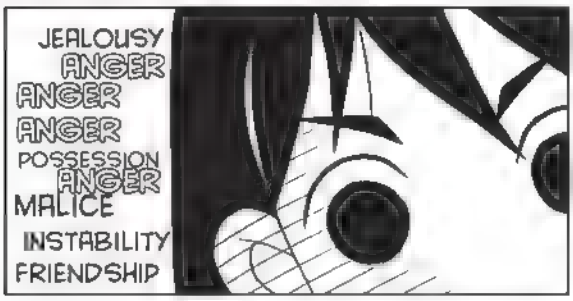
からっ
EMPTY
04/24 10 10 Tues
From Meru Otonashi
(No Subject)
(No Content)

WHAT KIND OF SELF-PR IS THAT!?
PLEASE STOP SENDING ME EMPTY TEXT MESSAGES!
SMIRK
ニヤッ
EVERYONE, LET'S HAVE SOME MORE MISGUIDED SELF-PR!
IN THIS CLASS I WANT EACH OF YOU TO SELL YOURSELF.
WELL, I GUESS IT'S FINE....
SUMO WRESTLERS ON A LOSING STREAK SHOW OFF THEIR INJURIES BY ADDING EXCESSIVE BANDAGES!
HE'LL COME. I'M SURE OF IT.
I'M A GOOD BOY!
CHILDREN WRITE LETTERS TO SANTA IN FRONT OF THEIR PARENTS TO SELL THEIR WISH LISTS!
WHAM
イライラ
ANGRY
CLOSED
UNEMPLOYED DROPOUTS HIT THE WALL TO SHOW OFF THEIR STRESS!
• POLITICIANS SELL THEIR SINCERITY BY WALKING TO SHAKE HANDS WITH FARMERS IN THE RICE PADDIES
• MANGA ARTISTS SELL THEIR ALL-NIGHTERS BY KNOCKING OVER EMPTY DRINK CANS
• UMPIRE BROWN SELLS HIS DISSATISFACTION BY THROWING SAND ALL OVER THE HOME PLATE
• APARTMENT RESIDENTS SELL THEIR ANGER AT ILLEGAL PARKERS BY KEYING THEIR VEHICLES
• OIL COMPANIES SELL THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT BY PLANTING TREES
• SOMETIMES SELLING PRO-JAPANESE SENTIMENT, SOMETIMES SELLING ANTI-JAPANESE SENTIMENT
• PLAYING SOCCER WITH KIDS IN THE SLUMS AS SELF-PR
• ERIKO SATO SELLS HER HEARTBREAK ON HER WEBSITE
• SELLING HER REPENTANCE BY SERVING TEA
• SHOZO HAYASHIYA SELLS HIS FORGETFULNESS
• HICHORI SELLS HIMSELF AS A RUNNYMAN ... GAL... MR...
• THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SELLS AKIHABARA AS "OTAKU CITY"
• SELLING YOURSELF AS SOMEONE'S FRIEND EVEN THOUGH
PEOPLE SELL THEMSELVES GIVEN THE SLIGHTEST CHANCE!
NIGHT WATCH ROOM
YOUR SELF-PR IS YOUR ROOM, ISN'T IT?
FORGET ALL THAT, SENSEI...

FLORAL LIP
ぷんすか
WHOSE IS THIS!?
FLING
GLARE
きょろ
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG?
ホホホ HO-HO-HO
EVIDENCE
PEOPLE WHO LEAVE THINGS BEHIND ON PURPOSE TO MAKE YOU REMEMBER THEM!
THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE THAT...
ALL I KNOW FOR CERTAIN IS THAT IT ISN'T MINE.
NOT HER!?
ニタア GRIN
そ SNEAK

WHOSE HAIR IS THIS?
WHAT!
!
NOT HER!?
SMIRK
SLIP
すっ
SWING
ふっ
ぷしゅう
SPRAY
...HAS BEEN DESTROYED BY RAMPANT SELF-PR!
EEEEEK! SENSEI'S ROOM...
LET'S JUST TRY TO KEEP THE HELLFIRE TO A MINIMUM, OKAY?
DO YOU WANT TO SELL YOURSELF TOO, MITAMA-CHAN?
WHAT'S GOING ON...? NOW EVEN I'M STARTING TO FEEL A LITTLE INSTABLE.
ぽすっ
FLOP
Night Watch Room
80 Minutes of Women in Charge DVD

HEH-HEH
ふっふっふ


JEALOUSY
ANGER
ANGER
ANGER
POSSESSION
ANGER
MALICE
INSTABILITY
FRIENDSHIP

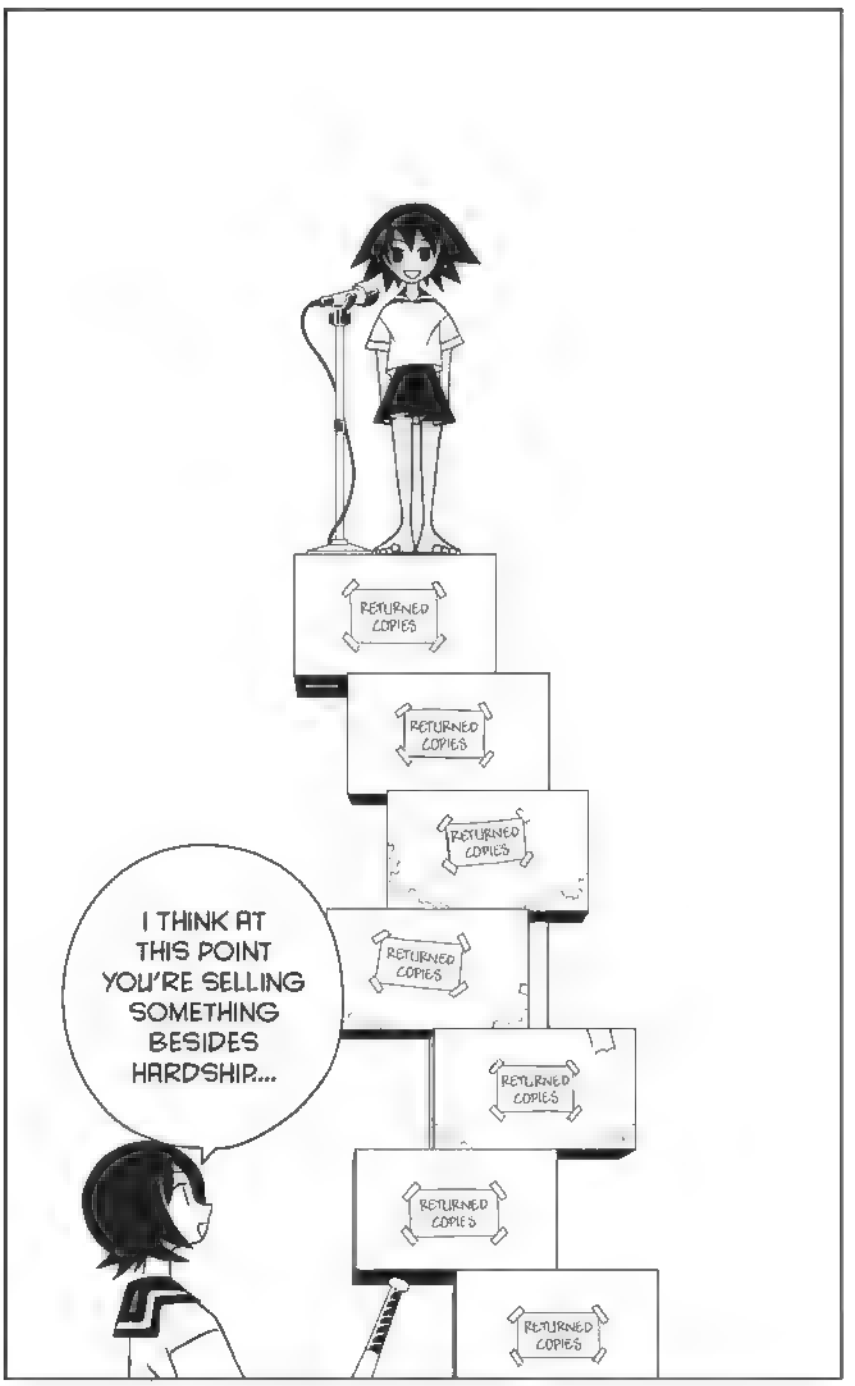
... WITHOUT HER CENTER PART.
CHIRI-CHAN...

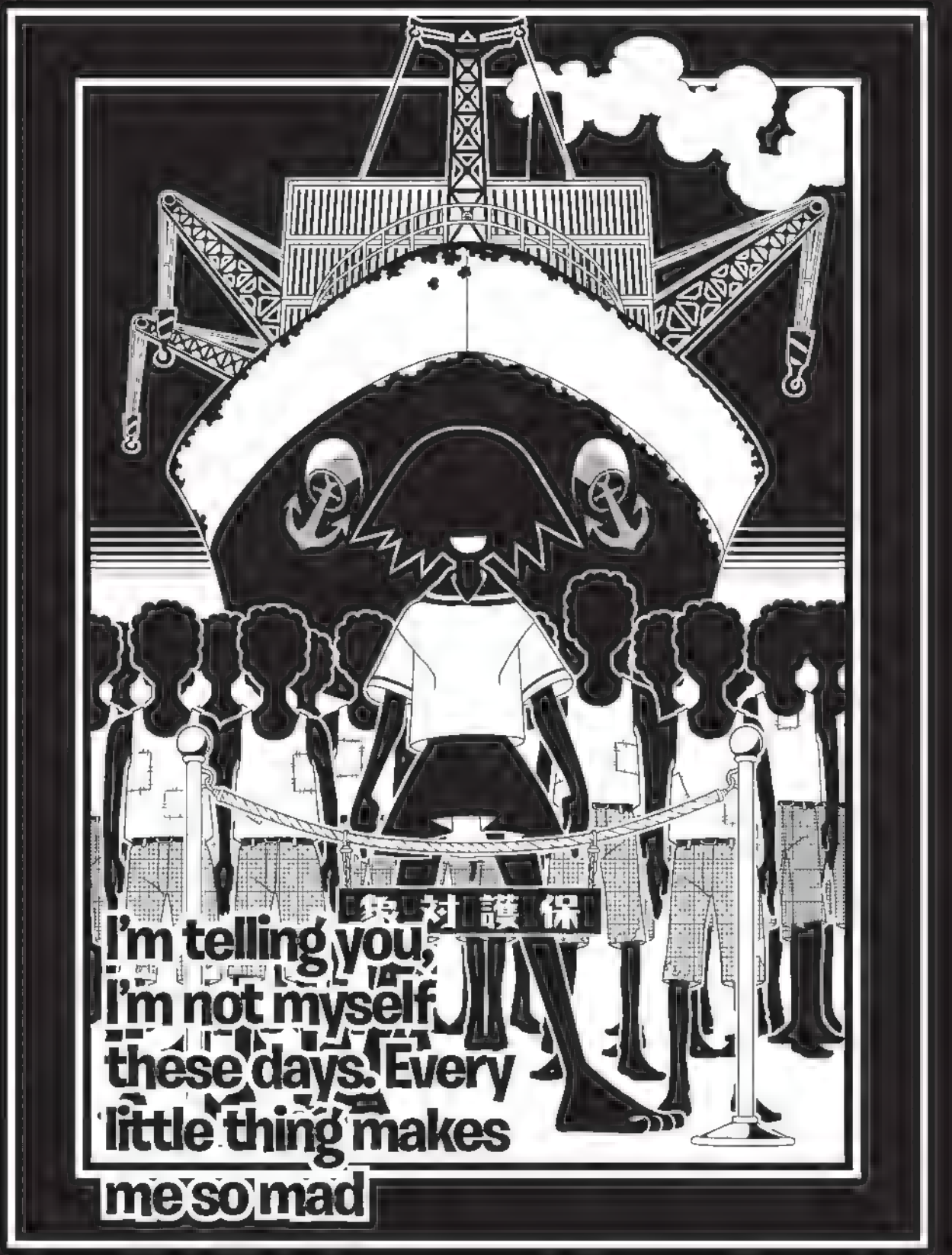
SHE'S TRYING TO "SELL" HER ABNORMAL PSYCHOLOGICAL STATE.
CHIRI-CHAN HAS CHANGED HER CENTER PART....
CHIRI-CHAN...

SO THIS IS HOW FRIGHTENING A WOMAN'S SELF-PR CAN BE?
AND WE HAVE HELLFIRE AFTER ALL!
ゴオオオオ

SCRATCH
BEARS STAKE OUT THEIR TERRITORY BY LEAVING CLAW MARKS ON TREES.

SELF-PR
CRACK


I THINK AT THIS POINT YOU'RE SELLING SOMETHING BESIDES HARDSHIP....
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES
RETURNED COPIES


絶対護保
I'm telling you, I'm not myself these days. Every little thing makes me so mad

CHAPTER 93

THE FRESH SCENT OF MAY.
THE AIR IS CRISP WITH THE SIGNS OF NEW GROWTH.
IT'S NICE HOW THERE'S SO MUCH NATURE LEFT IN THIS AREA.
FWISH
NATURAL RE
THIS AREA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS A "NATURAL RESERVE."

UNNATURAL RESERVE!
WHAT'S THAT? IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.
UNNATURAL RESERVE?
TURAL RESERVE
WHILE I'M SURE WE NEED NATURAL RESERVES...
SENSEI.
DON'T YOU SEE?
HUH?
WE ALSO NEED A RESERVE...
FOR EXAMPLE, HIM.
きょど
TURN
TURN
きょど
...TO PROTECT UNNATURAL THINGS, TOO!

HIS MOVEMENTS SEEM UNNATURAL.
HE'S OBVIOUSLY JUST A SKETCHY LOITERER!
WE HAVE TO PROTECT HIM!
I'LL DO IT.
ぽんっ
SLAP
わあっ
FLOP

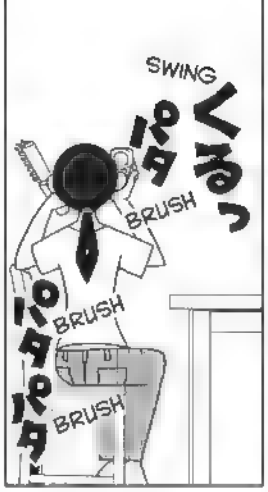
THERE WE ARE. DID YOU ALL SEE?
LOOKS LIKE HE WAS TRYING TO COMMIT SUICIDE.
...TO PROTECT UNNATURAL THINGS, TOO!
WE NEED A RESERVE...
!
WHAT AN UNNATURAL HAIRSTYLE.

ARE YOU TRYING TO HARM THE "UNNATURE"?
SNAP
ぱしゃ
HOW DARE YOU!
Look at his head...
WHAT IS IT?
WE MUST PROTECT IT.
...NOTHING AT ALL.
WHY, IT'S...
IT'S IMPORTANT TO WATCH OVER IT WITH SENSITIVE CARE.
"UNNATURE" IS A VERY FRAGILE THING.
...I WANTED TO TAKE YOU TO TODAY IS AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.
NOW, I'M QUITE CERTAIN THAT THE MUSEUM...
IT'S OVER HERE, SENSEI.
IT'S THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF UNNATURAL HISTORY.

Museum of Unnatural History
WELCOME.
Incredible Discoveries! From Aru aru ta God's Hand
An Unnatural Truth - Exhibit
HER NOSE...
...IS SO UNNATURAL.
WHAT WERE YOU ABOUT TO SAY!?
BAP
PLASTI-...
REMEMBER, WE HAVE TO PROTECT IT.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF THE "UN-NATURE'S" FEELINGS WERE HURT?
PLUS, THERE'S SOMETHING OBVIOUSLY UNNATURAL ABOUT YOUR BANDAGES.
NOTHING.
OH!
WHAT IS IT?

THERE ARE MANY UNNATURAL THINGS ON DISPLAY HERE, SO TAKE NOTES AS TO HOW THEY ARE BEING PRESERVED.
Unnatural Discovery!
O.J. Simpson
Hot Springs
Memories
Email Evidence
THERE'S A BUTTON. LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS.
Wife
Husband
SEE, THAT WAS QUITE AN UN-NATURAL ENTRANCE FOR RIN.
IT'S A ROBOT EXHIBITION, BIG BROTHER.
MAN! THEY'RE REALLY OVERWORKING ME AT THE OFFICE.
MY BOSS IS SUCH A PAIN. HE NEVER LETS ME LEAVE ON TIME.
I'M SO SICK OF DOING OVERTIME EVERYDAY.
UNNATURAL
WHAT A PAIN.
SEE? THE HUSBAND'S LINES ARE UNNATURAL.
HE'S HAVING AN AFFAIR!

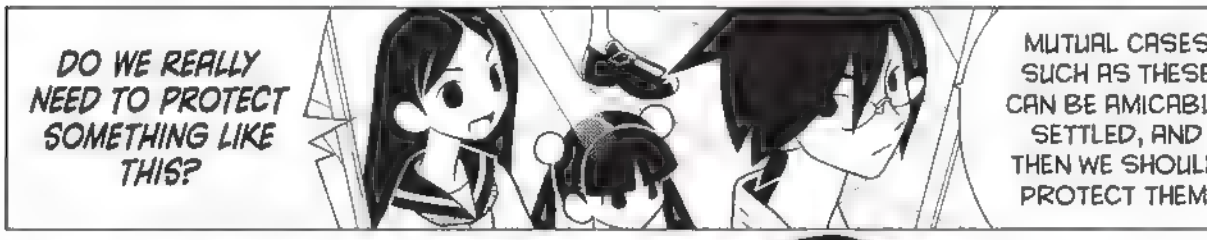
SWING
くるっ

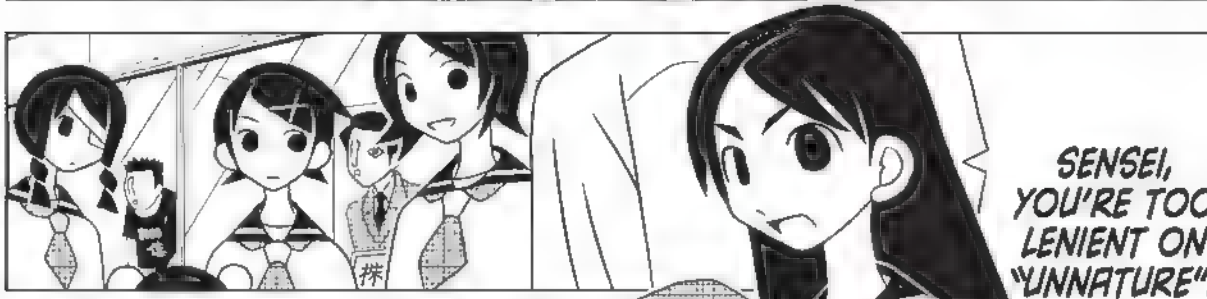

SWING
くるっ
パタ
BRUSH
パタパタ
BRUSH
BRUSH

THERE'S A "WIFE" BUTTON TOO.
WIFE

SHE MUST BE HAVING AN AFFAIR, TOO!
NOTICE THE WIFE'S UNNATURAL MAKEUP.

I HAVE AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REUNION TOMORROW.


DO WE REALLY NEED TO PROTECT SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
MUTUAL CASES SUCH AS THESE CAN BE AMICABLY SETTLED, AND THEN WE SHOULD PROTECT THEM.



SENSEI, YOU'RE TOO LENIENT ON "UNNATURE"!
WHAT UNNATURAL BOOBS.

WHAT IS IT?
WHY IT'S...
...NOTHING AT ALL.

THE UNNATURAL THING ABOUT THIS WAS THAT NEITHER OF THEM WAS THE PREFERRED GENDER OF THE OTHER!
DON'T SPREAD SUCH RUMORS!

WHAT'S THIS?
IT'S AN UNNATURAL MARRIAGE.
An Unnatural Marriage

THEY HAVE TODAY'S ISSUE OF JUMP.
AWE-SOME!

SOMETHING AS FRAGILE AS THAT IN PARTICULAR NEEDS PROTECTION!
OH.
JUMP

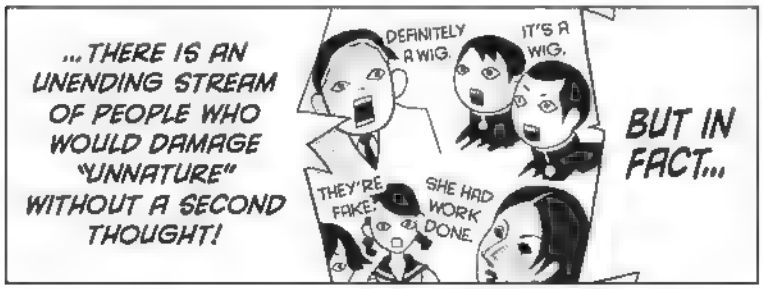
WHAT AN UNNATURAL ENDING.

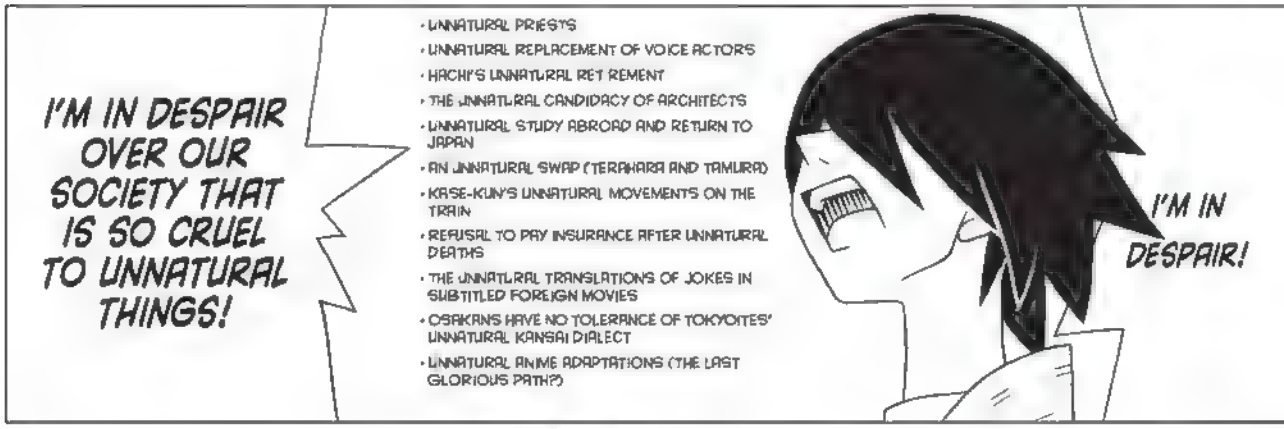
ALL TO MORE REASON TO PROTECT IT!
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT!

THE MANGA I LOVED WENT FROM AN UNNATURAL PLOT TWIST...
SOB
ぼろろ
SOB
...TO A TOTALLY UNNATURAL ENDING!
JUMP

...IS IT NOT OUR DUTY TO GIVE IT OUR KIND AND UNDIVIDED ATTENTION?
SINCE "UNNATURE" IS SO EASILY INJURED AND DAMAGED...

WHAT'S THIS?
USD
USD
UNNATURAL SHOES.
(ESTIMATE + 10 CM)
Unnatural Shoes

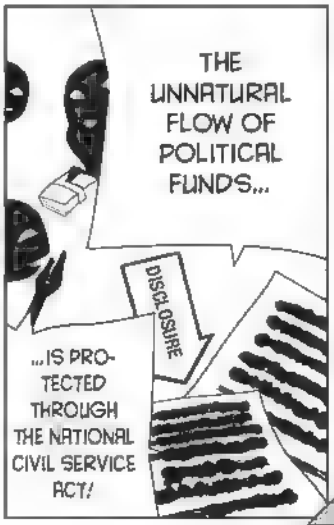

...THERE IS AN UNENDING STREAM OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD DAMAGE "UNNATURE" WITHOUT A SECOND THOUGHT!
DEFINITELY A WIG.
IT'S A WIG.
THEY'RE FAKE!
SHE HAD WORK DONE.
BUT IN FACT...


I'M IN DESPAIR OVER OUR SOCIETY THAT IS SO CRUEL TO UNNATURAL THINGS!
• UNNATURAL PRIESTS
• UNNATURAL REPLACEMENT OF VOICE ACTORS
• HACHI'S UNNATURAL RET REMENT
• THE UNNATURAL CANDIDACY OF ARCHITECTS
• UNNATURAL STUDY ABROAD AND RETURN TO JAPAN
• AN UNNATURAL SWAP (TERAHARA AND TAMURA)
• KASE-KUN'S UNNATURAL MOVEMENTS ON THE TRAIN
• REFUSAL TO PAY INSURANCE AFTER UNNATURAL DEATHS
• THE UNNATURAL TRANSLATIONS OF JOKES IN SUBTITLED FOREIGN MOVIES
• OSAKANS HAVE NO TOLERANCE OF TOKYOITES' UNNATURAL KANSAI DIALECT
• UNNATURAL ANIME ADAPTATIONS (THE LAST GLORIOUS PATH?)
I'M IN DESPAIR!

...TO PROTECT TONS OF UNNATURAL THINGS, WITH GREAT PASSION!
...NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS COOPERATE WITH BUSINESSES...
WHY THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL. IN JAPAN...

UNNATURAL DECI-SIONS...
LIVE!
...ARE HELD UP BY TELE-VISION STATIONS!

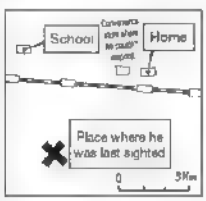
UNNATURAL PUBLIC BUILDING PROJECTS...
ODSHKAN
..ARE PRO-TECTED BY LOCAL ADMINIS-TRATION!

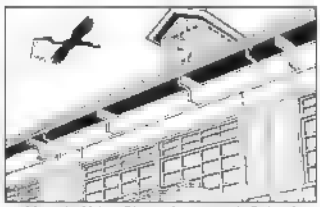

THE UNNATURAL FLOW OF POLITICAL FUNDS...
DISCLOSURE
...IS PRO-TECTED THROUGH THE NATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE ACT!

THOSE THINGS SHOULDN'T BE PAMPERED!
...WE NEED TO GO EASY ON BOTH THE NATURAL AND UNNATURAL PRESERVATION.
WELL... I GUESS WHAT WE'VE LEARNED IS...
- UNNATURAL ODA
- UNNATURAL INTEREST
- UNNATURAL BANKRUPTCY
- UNNATURAL 17-YEAR-OLDS
- UNNATURAL DEALS
- UNNATURAL RESUMPTION OF IMPORTS
- UNNATURAL AUCTION PRICES
- UNNATURAL HIGH-PROFILE SELECTIONS OF D RECTORS
- UNNATURAL TALENT SCOUT ACTIVITIES
- ADULT V DEO GAMES WITH UNNATURAL CLAIMS ABOUT CHARACTERS' AGES
- UNNATURAL CERTIFICATION PROCESSES FOR DRUGS
- AN ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY WITH AN UNNATURAL CASH-OUT SYSTEM
THEY'RE ALL PAMPERED WITH CARE!
HUH...? SINCE WHEN...
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT WE'RE IN LOVE AND PLANNING TO GET MARRIED?
HAVE YOU BEEN AVOIDING ME RECENTLY?
BY THE WAY, SENSEI...
...JUST END NATURALLY?
SENSEI, ARE YOU TRYING TO LET THINGS...
GLEAM
I WON'T JUST LET THINGS END NATURALLY.
NO, YOU SEE, THERE'S NO NATURAL END BECAUSE THERE WAS NEVER...
YOU ARE, AREN'T YOU!

Unsolved Disappearance

Past Problems with Guardians...?



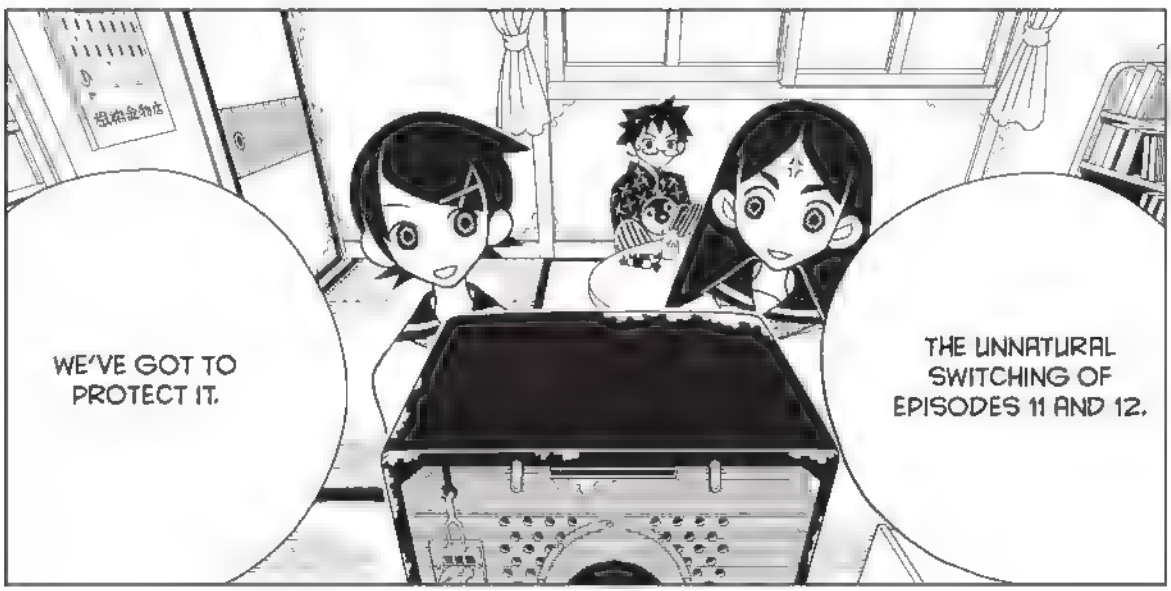


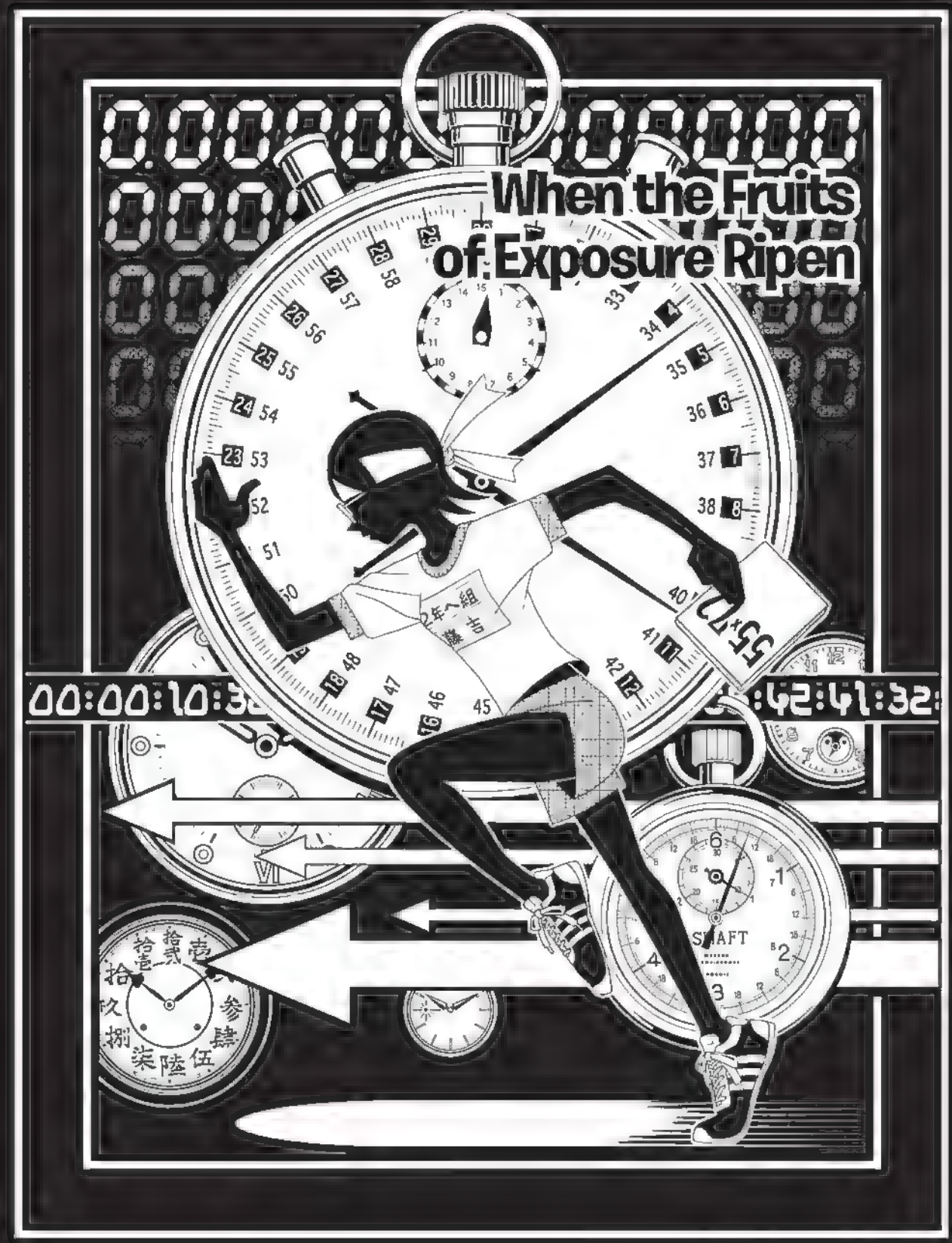
Yamata Udon Shimo-Igusa High School where Itoshiki-san worked/involvement

Possibility of Criminal Involvement

Nozomu Itoshiki-san, who remains missing without a trace

Teacher Gone Missing


WE'VE GOT TO PROTECT IT.
THE UNNATURAL SWITCHING OF EPISODES 11 AND 12.



CHAPTER 94

...REALLY BROUGHT *MAY FLOWERS!*

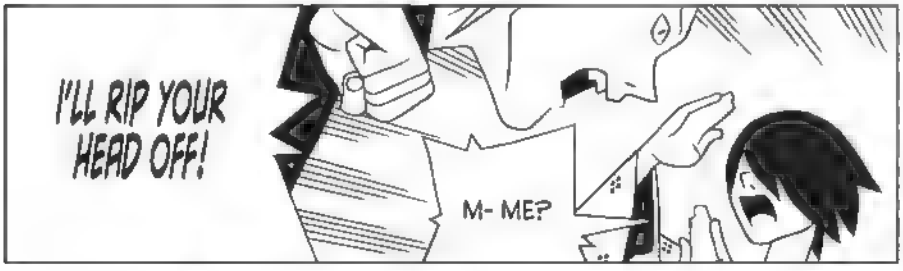
WHEN THE WEATHER IS THIS GOOD...
...MANY THINGS WIND UP EXPOSED TO THE LIGHT OF DAY.

HE LOOKS LIKE A HOODLUM!
PTOOEY
GRR

MAN...
IT'S HOT.

WOW! APRIL SHOWERS...

D-DAMN!
ばっ
JUMP
AN ANIME T-SHIRT?


I'LL RIP YOUR HEAD OFF!
M- ME?

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKIN' AT?

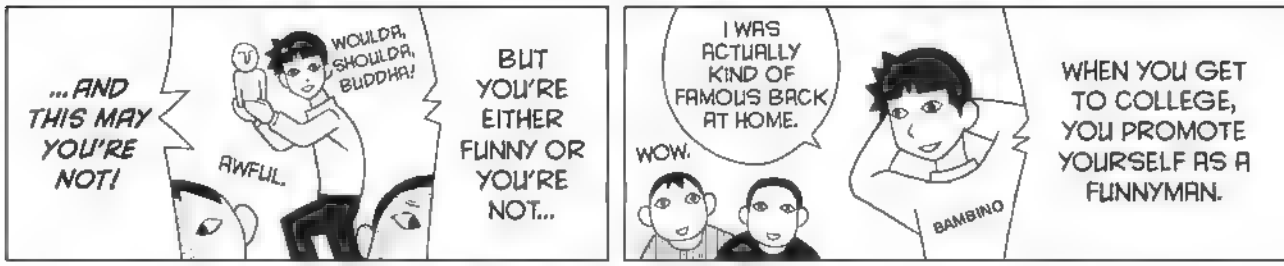
HE'S ACTUALLY A BIG WIMP.

Before
OH... HE'S FROM MY NEIGHBOR-HOOD. HE JUST STARTED HIGH SCHOOL THIS YEAR.

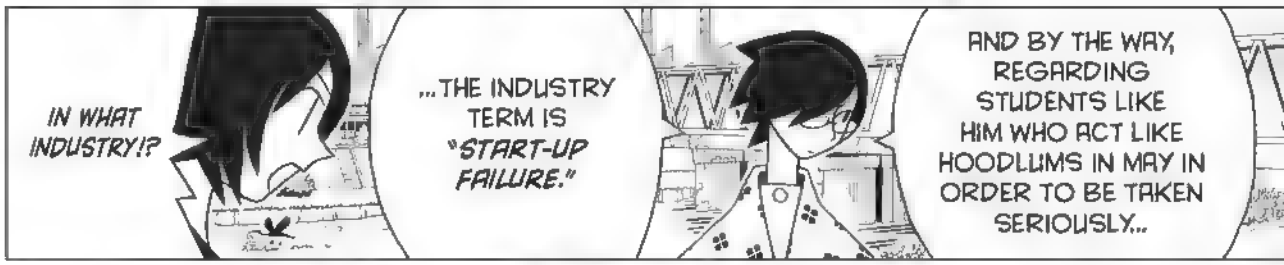
I WANTED THEM TO TAKE ME SERIOUSLY!
わあああ
WAAAAAH
ばり
GRAB
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
むく
TWITCH
HE STARTED DRESSING LIKE A HOODLUM THIS SEMESTER JUST SO PEOPLE WOULD TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY.
YOU SEE? WHEN MAY COMES ALONG...
IN OTHER WORDS...
...PEOPLE DITCH THEIR APRIL JACKETS AND REVEAL THEIR TRUE IDENTITIES.
APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY SOUR!
"MAY SOUR?"
THERE IS NO END TO THE DISAPPOINT-MENT.

...AND IT COMES TO LIGHT THAT YOU HAVE NO SEXUAL EXPERIENCE!
HUH!?
ANTI-ITCH CREAM WORKS REALLY WELL.
BUT THEN YOU SAY SOMETHING STUPID THAT MAKES NO SENSE...
WOW
WOW
I'VE HAD SEVEN GIRLS THIS YEAR.
YOU BRAG IN APRIL ABOUT ALL THE BEAUTIFUL WOMEN YOU'VE BEEN WITH.

...IT'S EXPOSED THAT YOU REALLY JUST TOOK ONLINE LESSONS!
...THAT'S TOMINAGA-SAN, RIGHT?
THE GRANDMASTER AT MAGA DOJO...
BUT WHEN CONFRONTED WITH SOMEONE WHO ACTUALLY KNOWS WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT...
LET ME KNOW IF YOU EVER NEED A HAND.
REALLY?
REALLY?
YOU BRAG ABOUT HOW YOU USED TO TAKE KARATE.


...AND THIS MAY YOU'RE NOT!
WOULDA, SHOULDA, BUDDHA!
AWFUL.
BUT YOU'RE EITHER FUNNY OR YOU'RE NOT...
I WAS ACTUALLY KIND OF FAMOUS BACK AT HOME.
WOW.
BAMBINO
WHEN YOU GET TO COLLEGE, YOU PROMOTE YOURSELF AS A FUNNYMAN.

...AND YOUR TRUE BACKGROUND IS REVEALED IN THE DAYLIGHT!
I ONLY KNOW X-68000.
I'M GOOD WITH COMPUTERS.
PROGRAMMER
WOW.
THE PERSON YOU PRETEND TO BE IN APRIL STARTS TO CRUMBLE...


IN WHAT INDUSTRY!?
...THE INDUSTRY TERM IS "START-UP FAILURE."
AND BY THE WAY, REGARDING STUDENTS LIKE HIM WHO ACT LIKE HOODLUMS IN MAY IN ORDER TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY...

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER, FUJIYOSHI-SAN?
JUMP
Zan
JUMP
HMMM...

A NEW MANGA SERIALIZATION THAT I THOUGHT WAS PRETTY INTERESTING BEGAN THIS APRIL.
BUT NOW THAT IT'S MAY, I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT IT.
JUMP
Zan
Stray Mosamune
JUMP
24
THAT COULD BE AN EXAMPLE OF MAY SOUR, TOO.
IT WAS A DOUBLE ISSUE, TOO.
DON'T CALL US "MAY SOUR" AFTER JUST ONE WEEK!
WAIT A SECOND... THIS MANGA BEGAN SERIALIZATION ON APRIL 27TH.
...NOT JUST PEOPLE, GET EXPOSED IN "MAY SOUR."
THINGS WITHOUT A SOLID FOUNDATION...
...BUT BY MAY, YOU BEGIN TO FEEL OUT OF PLACE.
How to draw frame borders
APRIL
MAY
Self-Study
IN APRIL, YOU'RE STILL EXCITED ABOUT THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL YOU JUST STARTED...
...BUT WHEN MAY COMES AROUND, THEY SHOW THEIR TRUE COLORS.
April
VICTORY!
ToKYo
May
G Losing Streak!!
SPORTS
May Sour?
Losing Speed
A CERTAIN TEAM SEEMS PROMISING AT FIRST...

• THE DOUBLE-EYELID SURGERY YOU DID IN APRIL FADES IN MAY
• THE SUCTION DISKS YOU BOUGHT IN APRIL AT A 100-YEN SHOP STOP WORKING IN MAY
• ANTAGONISM BETWEEN THE NEW COACH WHO ARRIVED IN APRIL AND THE PLAYERS IS EXPOSED IN MAY
• YOU GET NOTIFIED IN MAY OF THE SERIOUS RESULTS FROM A HEALTH EXAMINATION IN APRIL
• A FRIEND YOU MADE IN APRIL COMES TO YOUR HOUSE IN MAY AND DISCOVERS YOUR COLLECTION OF CD'S BY ANIME VOICE ACTRESSES
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT YOU'RE NOT WATCHING THE CABLE CHANNEL YOU BOUGHT IN APRIL AT ALL
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT THE GIRL YOU STARTED LIKING IN APRIL HAS A BOYFRIEND
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT THE NEW CELL PHONE PLAN YOU STARTED IN APRIL ACTUALLY COSTS MORE
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT THE NEW JOB YOU STARTED IN APRIL IS ACTUALLY A PYRAMID SELLING SCAM
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT THE SCHOOL CLUB YOU JOINED IN APRIL IS ACTUALLY A RELIGIOUS CULT
• YOU REALIZE IN MAY THAT THE GIRL WHO WAS NICE TO YOU IN APRIL IS ACTUALLY PART OF A DATING BUSINESS SCHEME
• PEOPLE WHO DROWN IN APRIL FLOAT TO THE SURFACE (DUE TO GAS BUILDUP) IN MAY
• THE "VILLAGE CAPTAIN" OF THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM'S TRUE ABILITY COMES TO LIGHT IN MAY
• THE ROUGH DRAFT I DRAW ON APRIL 30TH IS REVEALED ON MAY 1ST
• THE DREAMS YOU HAD IN APRIL... WELL, THEY'RE JUST DREAMS AND THIS BECOMES APPARENT IN MAY
EVERYTHING COMES TO LIGHT IN MAY SOUR!
I'M IN DESPAIR OVER APRIL SHOWERS BRINGING MAY SOUR!
I'M IN DESPAIR!
...WHAT IF I'M EXPOSED?
OH NO...
NOBODY'S NOTICED.
IT'S OKAY.
GLEAM
...WITHOUT WAITING FOR MAY TO COME AROUND.
WELL... SOMETIMES THINGS ARE EXPOSED IN APRIL...
I MADE IT THROUGH MAY SOUR!
THERE YOU GO AGAIN, SUCKING UP TO THE READERS.
MY MOTHER SAW THE DRAWING I WAS MAKING FOR MOTHER'S DAY.
OH HO!
DON'T LOOK!
HEY!
THE DOG I SNUCK INTO THE HOUSE WAS CAUGHT.
WHEN I WAS A CHILD, NOTHING EVER WAITED FOR MAY SOUR.

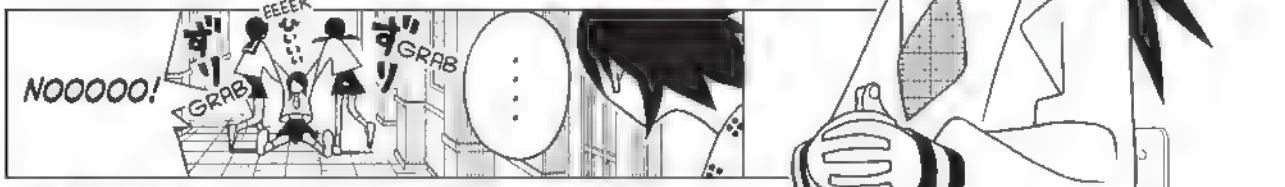
I SEE, BIG BROTHER.
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT "MAY SOUR."
OR WHEN MEI* AND SATSUKI* ARE EXPOSED FOR BEING DAYDREAM-PRONE!
IT'S DOSU-GURO GURO-SUKE!
POP
OR WHEN IT CAME TO LIGHT THAT SATSUKI* ARIGA AND HER HUSBAND WERE HAVING MARITAL PROBLEMS!
OUR LANGUAGES ARE DIFFERENT
LIKE WHEN SATSUKI* KATAYAMA'S LACK OF POLITICAL VISION WAS EXPOSED!
STAMMER
STAMMER
* "SATSUKI" IN JAPANESE CAN BE TRANSLATED AS "MAY."
THAT'S NOT MAY SOUR, RIN! STOP TRYING TO PAINT ME AS A BAD GUY!
THIS MUST BE WHAT YOU MEAN, BIG BROTHER!
HMM?
IS FUJIYOSHI-SAN IN THIS CLASS?
HM?
SLIDE
IS HARUMI FUJIYOSHI HERE?
THEY FOUND ME.
UH... NO... I MEAN...
ARE YOU UP TO SOMETHING, FUJIYOSHI-SAN!?

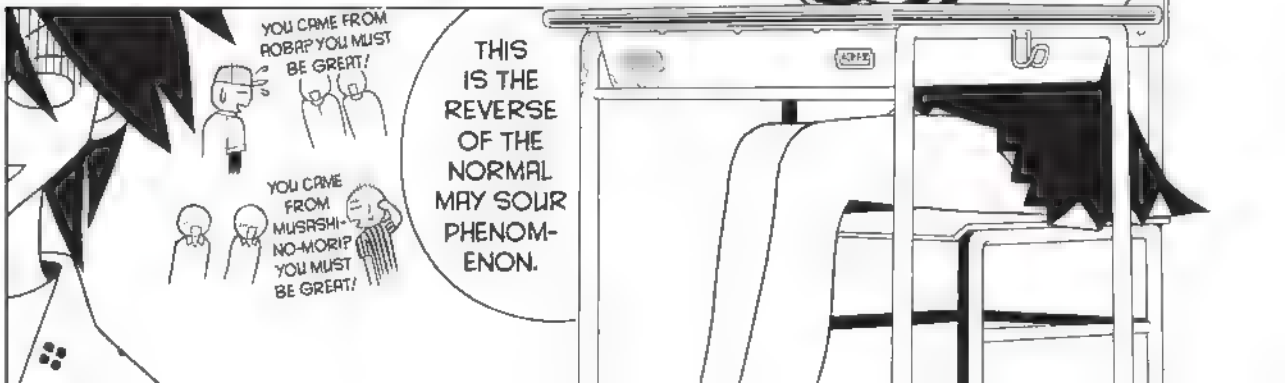
HUH?
IT'S NOT TRUE!
THEY SAY YOU CAN RUN THE 100 METER IN UNDER 12 SECONDS.

THEY FOUND HER ALREADY.
WOW.
I'M JUST A MANGA OTAKU WITH GLASSES!
NO, NO!
I HEAR YOU CAN MAKE A 70-METER LONG THROW.

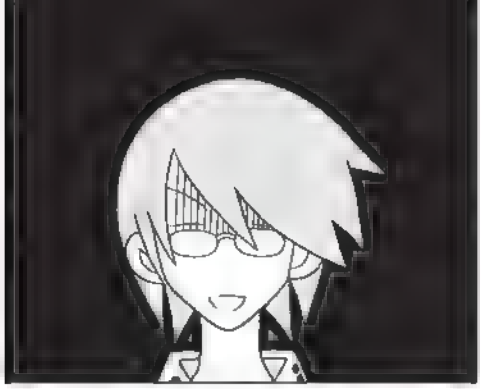
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?
GIVE UP THAT MANGA STUFF AND JOIN OUR TEAM!
ズズ DRAG
C'MON, JOIN OUR TEAM!

DON'T DO THAT!
WE SHOULD ALL CALL HER "MISS MAY SOUR."
...DISCOVER HARUMI'S UNUSUAL MOTOR NERVES AND COME TO RECRUIT HER.
EVERY YEAR, WITHOUT FAIL, THE SPORTS TEAMS...


NOOOOO!
GRAB
EEEEK
GRAB
...


YOU CAME FROM AOBA? YOU MUST BE GREAT!
YOU CAME FROM MUSASHI-NO-MORI? YOU MUST BE GREAT!
THIS IS THE REVERSE OF THE NORMAL MAY SOUR PHENOM-ENON.

OH...
WE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU REGARDING THE APRIL DAM INCIDENT.
THIS IS YOURS, ISN'T IT?
WE'RE LOOKING FOR CHIRI KITSU.
WHAT IS THIS APRIL DAM INCIDENT!?
WHAT!
I'M AFRAID THIS IS A CLEAR CASE OF MAY SOUR FOR ME.
THEY FOUND ME.
<SIGH>
GLUE
Quota: 100 Flowers
...BUT MAYBE THAT WILL CALM THINGS DOWN.
WE MAY NOT SEE KITSU-SAN AROUND SCHOOL FOR A WHILE...
IT'S TOO REAL!
IS THIS MAY SOUR?
AND WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?
BUT THE OTHER DAY, ON A CLASS TRIP...
EVER SINCE I MET HIM IN APRIL, I'VE HAD A BIG CRUSH ON KINO-KUN.
...WENT WAY UP IN MAY.
THE INTEREST ON THE CARD LOAN I TOOK OUT IN APRIL...



HE HAS AN UNFORTUNATE SENSE OF STYLE!
ERR...

YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON SOMEONE IN APRIL... UNTIL YOU SEE HIM OR HER OUT OF UNIFORM FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MAY.
THIS IS CERTAINLY ANOTHER KIND OF MAY SOUR.

...I SAW HIM OUT OF HIS SCHOOL UNIFORM...

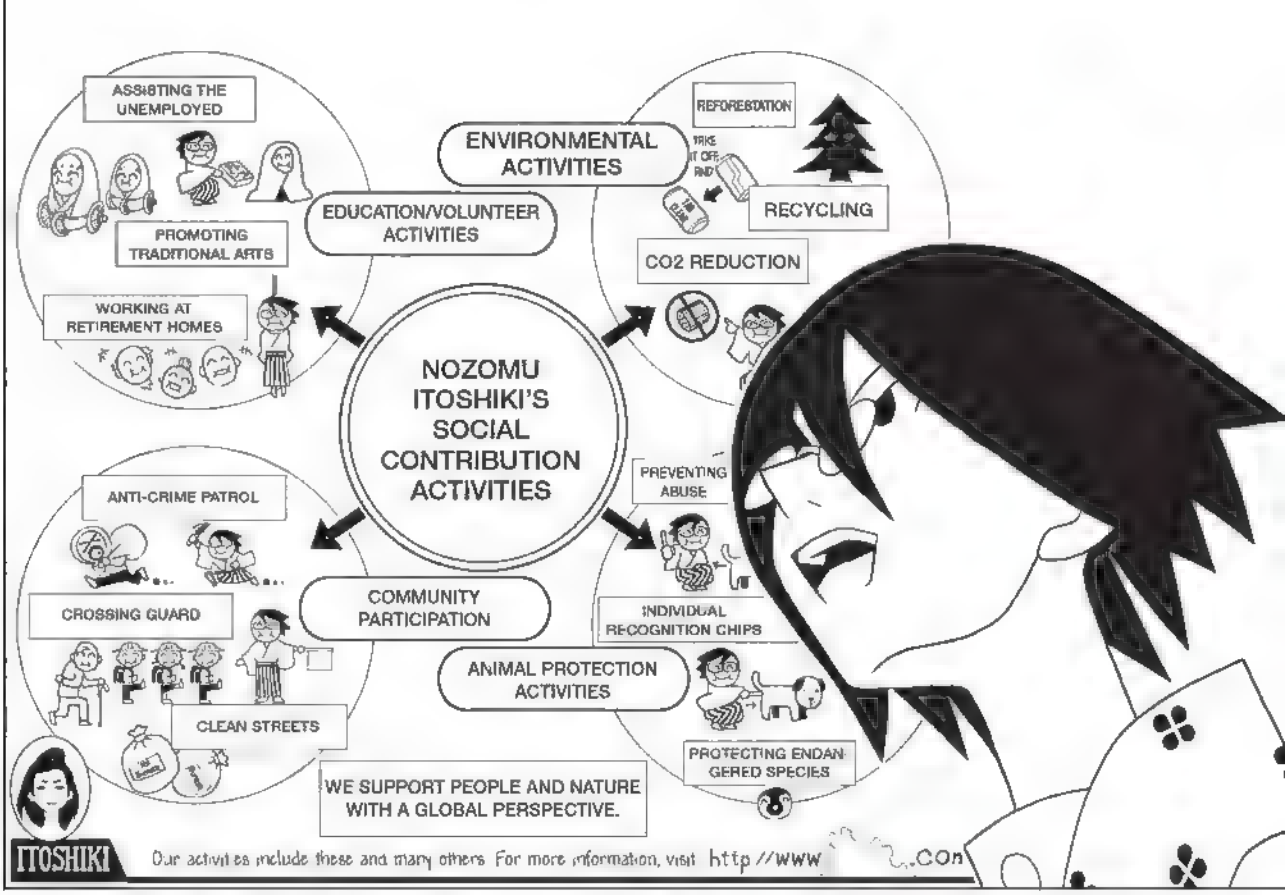
...DO WE HAVE TO WEAR OUR *UNIFORMS*?
ON THE FIELD TRIP FOR GEOGRAPHY CLASS NEXT WEEK...

KINO-KUN.
HEY, SENSEI...

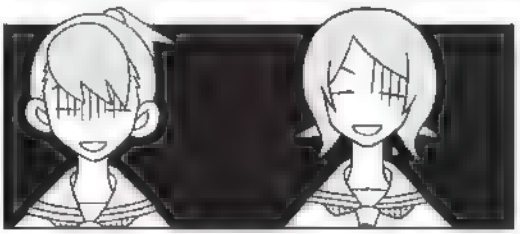
?
YOU HAVE TO WEAR *YOUR* UNIFORM, KINO-KUN!

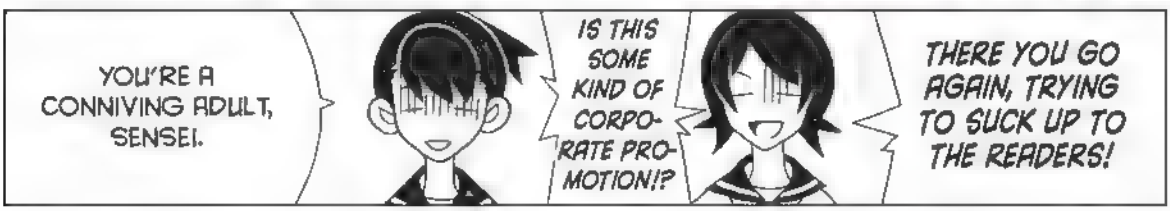
YES YOU DO!
N-

WELL, I GUESS THAT CONCLUDES TODAY'S LESSON ON MAY SOUR.
IT'S QUITE FRIGHT-ENING.
SOCIETY IS HARSHER ON PEOPLE WHO TRY TO HIDE.
PEOPLE WHO COME CLEAN WITH THEIR SECRETS ARE TREATED MUCH MORE NICELY.
YOU SHOULD ALL COME CLEAN WITH YOUR SECRETS!
LET'S ALL SPILL OUR MAY SOURS!
YOU'RE RIGHT.
• SHE THOUGHT THAT R-25 WAS AN EVEN MORE ADULT VERSION OF R-18
• SHE WEARS LITTLE G RL'S CLOTHING AT HOME
• SHE'S ONLY LIVED OUTSIDE OF JAPAN FOR THREE MONTHS
I'VE BEEN HIDING THIS FROM YOU THE WHOLE TIME...
BEFORE YOU DISCOVER MY SECRET, I MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU.
I'LL PAR-TICIPATE AS WELL.
WHAT... ME?
WHAT AT AWFUL TEACHER YOU ARE!


NOZOMU ITOSHIKI'S SOCIAL CONTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES
REFORESTATION
TAKE IT OFF AND
RECYCLING
CO2 REDUCTION
EDUCATION/VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES
ASSISTING THE UNEMPLOYED
PROMOTING TRADITIONAL ARTS
WORKING AT RETIREMENT HOMES
COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION
ANTI-CRIME PATROL
CROSSING GUARD
CLEAN STREETS
PREVENTING ABUSE
INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION CHIPS
ANIMAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES
PROTECTING ENDANGERED SPECIES
WE SUPPORT PEOPLE AND NATURE WITH A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE.
ITOSHIKI
Our activities include these and many others. For more information, visit http://www..com

SO I GUESS THAT'S MY MAY SOUR.




YOU'RE A CONNIVING ADULT, SENSEI.
IS THIS SOME KIND OF CORPO-RATE PRO-MOTION!?
THERE YOU GO AGAIN, TRYING TO SUCK UP TO THE READERS!

IS THIS YOUR MAY SOUR?
WHISPER WHISPER
A DEFAM-ATORY LETTER?

YOU'RE A TOTAL HYPO-CRITE!
I WAS NERVOUS TO REVEAL IT BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID I WOULD SOUND HYPOCRITICAL.

WHAT'S UP, STAY-AT-HOME SIS?
MAJIRU-KUN, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.
...I SHOULD TELL YOU.
BEFORE YOU FIND OUT...
I KNEW THAT ALREADY!
I'M NOT ACTUALLY YOUR BIG SISTER.

CHAPTER 95

WHOA.
ITOSHIKI CLINIC
WOW.
PLEASE FORM A
...CLINIC IS REALLY POPULAR!!
IT LOOKS LIKE ZETSUMEI-SENSEI'S...

COME IN.
NOZOMU'S BIG BROTHER, MIKOTO ITOSHIKI
NEXT IN LINE!
はー
WHEEZE
はー
WHEEZE
KILL ME, PLEASE!
KILL ME!
ITOSHIKI CLINIC
GET OUT OF HERE, ALL OF YOU!
GO ON!
KILL US ALL, PLEASE!
YOU'RE "ZETSUMEI-SENSEI," AREN'T YOU?*
LIKE ZETSUBOU-SENSEI, WHEN THE CHARACTERS FOR MIKOTO ITOSHIKI'S NAME ARE WRITTEN TOO CLOSE TOGETHER, THEY LOOK LIKE "ZETSUMEI," WHICH MEANS "CERTAIN DEATH."

WHAT THE...?
ZETSUMEI-SENSEI'S CLINIC...
...IS WILDLY POPULAR AMONG SUICIDAL PATIENTS WITH MAY SICKNESS?
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOUR FATE WILL TAKE A TURN FOR THE BETTER.
NO KIDDING.
DID HIS JINXED NAME ACTUALLY PROVE TO BE A FORTUNE?
I spread a rumor online that he was a suicide doctor.
KIND OF LIKE THOSE RESTAURANTS THAT GOT FAMOUS FOR HAVING THE "WORST RAMEN IN JAPAN."
...OF PROFITING FROM DISASTER!
PROFITING HOW?
WHY THIS IS AN EXAMPLE...
SENSEI.

IT WAS STRUCK BY LIGHTNING LAST YEAR AND BURNED TO THE GROUND.
PRIVATE HOME DESTROYED
BUT THEN THEY RECEIVED SO MUCH INSURANCE THAT THEY BUILT A HUGE MANSION.
TAKE A LOOK AT THAT RESIDENCE.
ASIDE FROM RESIDENCES, THERE ARE MANY OTHER EXAMPLES OF PROFITING FROM DISASTER IN THIS COUNTRY.
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY PROFITED FROM DISASTER!
...AFTER A CONTRO-VERSIAL PERFOR-MANCE!
DISGRACEFUL!
SALES
FOR EXAMPLE, CD SALES GOING WAY UP..
WEEKLY JOURNALS SELL BETTER AFTER THEY GET SUED!
LET'S SEE
WEEKLY REALITY
We Got Sued
CELEBRITIES INVOLVED IN SCANDALS END UP GETTING MORE WORK THAN BEFORE!
Late Night Kiss on Street

I'VE LOST HOPE IN A SOCIETY THAT PROFITS FROM DISASTER!
I'M IN DESPAIR!
...DONE-IN-CHŌFU.*
YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS IS A FANCY NEIGHBORHOOD THAT WAS BUILT ON PROFITS REAPED THROUGH DISASTER...
* A PUN ON "DEN-EN-CHŌFU," A NEIGHBORHOOD OF TOKYO KNOWN FOR ITS EXPENSIVE AND LARGE RESIDENCES.
YOU WERE HERE?
THE WHOLE TIME.
...AND ASK HOW THEY PROFITED FROM DISASTER.
LET'S GO TO EACH HOUSE...

A Suitable Place to Overthrow the Government
Microfilm's Welcome
No Sales
YES.
PARDON ME.
DING DONG
DID YOU PROFIT FROM DISASTER?
OH, HOW I PROFITED.
I LOST IN THE ELECTIONS, BUT THEN GOT REALLY POPULAR...
...AND NOW MY VOICE HAS BEEN MADE INTO A RINGTONE!
DID YOU PROFIT FROM DISASTER?
OH, HOW I PROFITED.
MY CORPORATE TAKEOVER WAS A HUGE FAILURE...
...BUT I GOT EVERYBODY TO BUY MY STOCK AT A HIGH PRICE AND PROFITED WILDLY.
MY MOVIE WAS CRITICIZED AS TOO VIOLENT BY POLITICIANS AND GOT AN R-15 RATING...
EMOTION
...WHICH WAS EXACTLY THE PR IT NEEDED TO BECOME A BIG HIT!
I USED MY HUGE AMOUNT OF DEBT AS SELF-PR...
...AND ENDED UP GETTING LOTS OF WORK.
WE PROFITED FROM DISASTER.
MY GOD...

- DIARY OF LIFE WITH A DEVIL OF A WIFE
- MY WIFE'S HAVING AN AFFAIR THIS WEEK
- WIG BOXER
- DOG THAT GOT CAUGHT ON THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF
- CHILEAN WIFE
- EE JUMP (LADY)
- THE NAME "MOKOMICHI"
- OSHIO-SENSEI'S LEAKED PICTURES
- ABASHIRI PRISON'S TOURISTY PROMOTION
- THE YUBARI MELON THAT WENT FOR ONE MILLION YEN AT THE FIRST AUCTION
- THE TERMS FACING DE-RANKING FROM THE J1 LEAGUE SHOW THE BEST FIGHT
- THE HORSE THAT GETS MORE POPULAR EACH TIME IT LOSES
- THE MYSTERIOUS MOVE FROM MISCONDUCT TO MANDATORY BROADCASTING FEES
- SAYING WORDS THAT CANNOT BE BROADCAST ON TV LEADS TO A HUGE COMEBACK AS A VARIETY IDOL
- AN ILLEGAL LIVE CONCERT IS BUSTED BY THE COPS BUT HELPS A BAND GAIN ATTENTION AND SELL ITS SINGLE
- RECORD PROFITS FROM THE "DISPOSAL OF NONPERFORMING CLAIMS"
- WHAT, YOU WANNA SAY THAT EVEN THIS MANGA...?

PEOPLE TAKE EVERY CHANCE THEY CAN TO PROFIT FROM DISASTER!

IN JAPAN WE HAVE A SAYING, *"DISASTER IS A BLESSING IN DISGUISE."*

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH PROFITING FROM DISASTER.

...WAS HAPPY WHEN HE GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT BECAUSE HE GOT A NEW CAR.

AN UNEMPLOYED GUY IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD...

ERP?

...DO OUR BEST TO PROFIT FROM DISASTER!

I SAY WE SHOULD ALL...

WHAT ARE YOU SUGGESTING!?

C'MON GUYS, LET'S START SOME TROUBLE AND THEN PROFIT FROM IT!

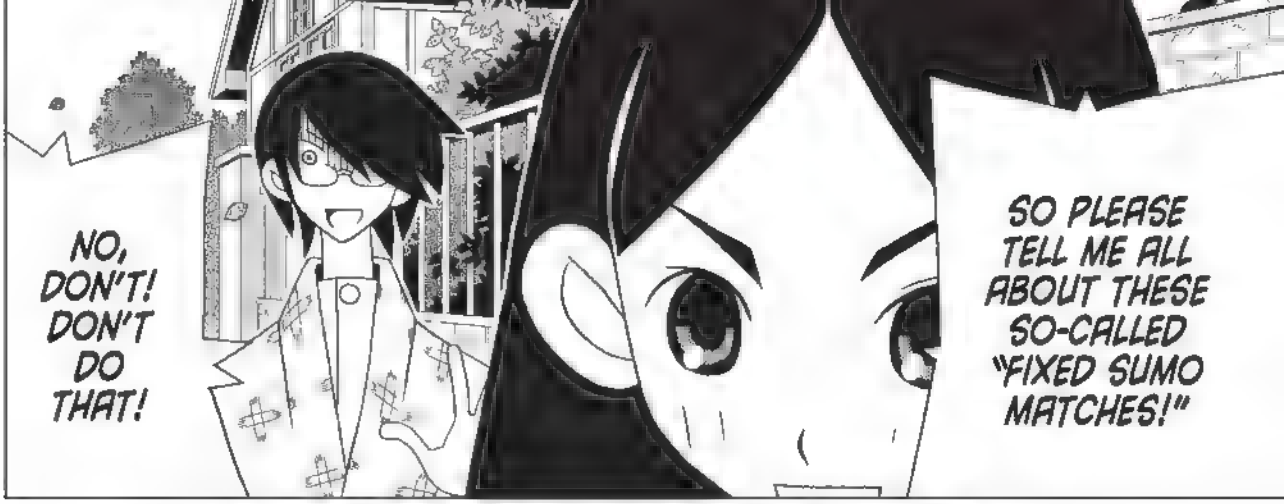
OR *HUGE LOSSES FROM THAT MUTUAL FUND?*

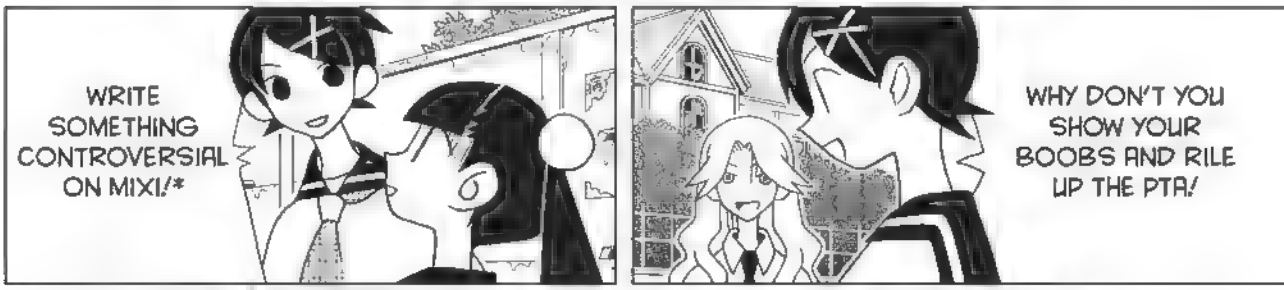
LIKE, *FIXED SUMO MATCHES?*

LET'S MAKE STATEMENTS THAT WILL GET US SUED!

I PROMISE NOT TO INTERRUPT...

WAIT A SECOND!





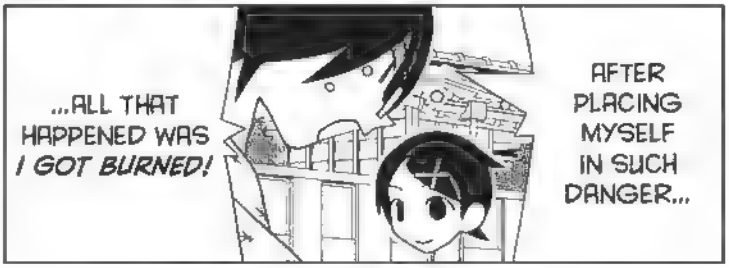
* MIXI IS A SOCIAL NETWORK IN JAPAN, LIKE FACEBOOK.

NO, I MEAN...
OH.
AFTER ALL, I WAS JUST TRYING TO MAKE IT IN THE WORLD.
DEJECTED
しょんぼり
I'M SORRY. I SAID TOO MUCH.
THERE'S NO WAY TO PROSPER PLAYING BY THE BOOK.
...YOU'LL PROFIT FROM DISASTER TOO, SENSEI?
IN THAT CASE...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?
PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY ARE SAYING THAT THEY WANT TO ADOPT YOU!
YOU'RE "THE CLIFF-EDGE SENSEI!"

HE'S THAT GUY..
HE DID IT FOR THE PUBLICITY
WHISPER WHISPER
PUBLIC NUISANCE
SHAMELESS PLOY!!
SAFE AND SOUND!!
SPORTS
CLIFF-EDGE SENSEI
5/23 B
Dog Rescued at the Same Time Also a Big Hit!

PROFITING FROM DISASTER IS AN ADVANCED SKILL, SOMETHING THAT ONLY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CAN PULL OFF!


...ALL THAT HAPPENED WAS I GOT BURNED!
AFTER PLACING MYSELF IN SUCH DANGER...

I HAVE GOOD NEWS!
BIG BROTHER!

CONTROVERSY ON RESTAURANT BLOG
MIRROR
CELEB GETS BURNED FROM LOOK-ALIKE'S TROUBLE-MAKING
A MACHINE FOR GIVING BIRTH
YUBARI ECONOMIC COLLAPSE
YUKI-KUN DREAMTIME BATTLE
DEEP * BREATH
UNDERAGE
YADA-CHAN'S LOVE
BUGS IN THE CHOCOLATE
IN FACT, GETTING BURNED IS FAR MORE COMMON!

...AND WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO OBTAIN AN *R-RATING* FOR YOU.
I MADE A PROPOSAL TO A POLITICIAN THAT YOU BE RESTRICTED AS AN INDECENT FIGURE...
?
YOU'VE BEEN RATED R!
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE!?
HO ほ
YOU'VE BECOME *SO MATURE*, BIG BROTHER!
ほ HO
HO
R-15
OH NO!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I'M SURE THIS WILL INCREASE YOUR POPULARITY!
THIS IS GREAT, SENSEI!
...MAJIRU-KUN MUSTN'T LOOK AT HIM!
NOW THAT SENSEI'S RATED R...
DON'T TAKE HER SERIOUSLY, MAJIRU!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
YOU COULD GET THE DEATH PENALTY IF YOU DO.

TURN
ぷいん
OH REALLY?
SOMEHOW, I FEEL LESS POPULAR INSTEAD OF MORE!
ぷいん
TURN
C'MON, MAJIRU-KUN.
YOU'VE BEEN UP-GRADED, BIG BROTHER.
YES, THANK YOU....
YES....
IT COULD BE THAT AN R-15 RATING ISN'T EXTREME ENOUGH TO PROFIT FROM DISASTER.
YOU ARE NOW RATED R-18.
R-18
キーン コーン
DING DONG
ALL RIGHT, IN TODAY'S CLASS...

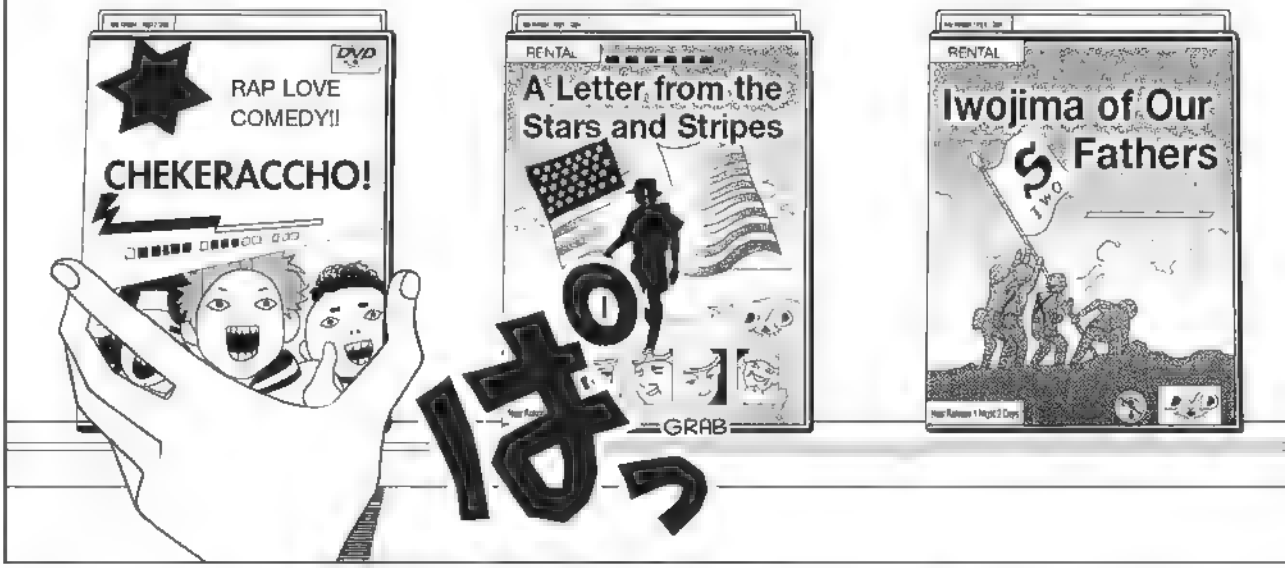
TURN
R-18
TURN
TURN
TURN
UM... EXCUSE ME?
I'M A VICTIM!
THIS IS BULLYING!
BUT YOU'VE ALL BEEN HELD BACK TWICE!
...WE CAN'T LOOK AT YOU SINCE WE'RE ONLY 17.
NOW THAT YOU'RE RATED R-18...
SHE REALLY DOESN'T WANT TO LOOK AT HIM.
ガーン
TURN
ARGH
カチン
STARE
AT LEAST YOU HAVE NO PROBLEM LOOKING AT ME, CHIE-SENSEI.
COUNSELOR

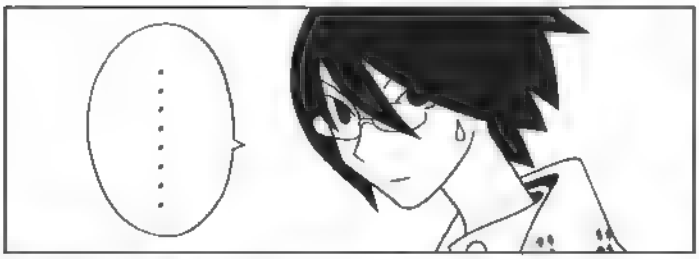
...MAYBE, JUST MAYBE, WE'LL PROFIT FROM...
IF PEOPLE COMPLAIN AND WE GET TAKEN OFF AIR...
NO! DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT IT.. DON'T EVEN!

銀座カリー
珈琲
COCO一番
カレー
珈琲
I will not return to Japan. I could not make that promise

CHAPTER 96

Prison Break 4 0
ANIME
NEW
新作
NEW
新作
NEW
新作
WHICH ONE SHOULD I RENT?
A Letter from the Stars and Stripes
Iwojima of Our Fathers
HMMM... I DON'T HAVE TIME TO WATCH TWO FILMS....
RENTAL
A Letter from the Stars and Stripes
...OR THIS ONE?
RENTAL
Iwojima of Our Fathers
SHOULD I RENT THIS ONE...
手紙


DVD
RAP LOVE COMEDY!!
CHEKERACCHO!
RENTAL
A Letter from the Stars and Stripes
RENTAL
Iwojima of Our Fathers
GRAB
ばっ


.....

RENTAL VIDEO
NEO
THANK YOU.
RENTAL VIDEO

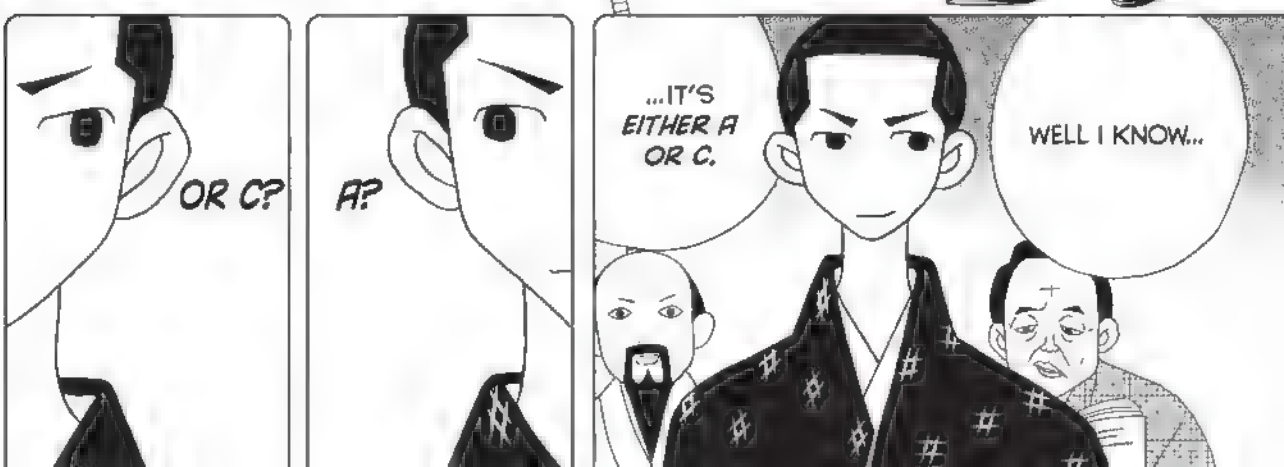
WHY!
WHY DID I RENT SOMETHING WEIRD INSTEAD OF WHAT I WANTED!?

...YOU END UP CHOOSING SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT.
AFTER AGONIZING OVER TWO CHOICES...
?
HMMMM
YEAH, THAT HAPPENS SOME-TIMES.
GINZA SHOPPING ARCADE
FAST SERVICE HITOE
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SENSEI?
VERY BEAUTY

SHOULD I MAKE CURRY...
...OR HAMBURGERS?
CHICHIBU RAMEN
HMMM.
AH, IT'S OKUSA-SAN.
SUPER KAMI DE
PANAW EANERS
CURRY?
OR HAM-BURGERS?
SUPER KAMIOKA
AND?
I DECIDED TO MAKE YAKI-UDON.
CHING
BEEP
OTONASHI-SAN.
I WONDER WHY...
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I DON'T REALLY WANT TO EAT YAKI-UDON.
Coca-Cola
ISOTONIC DRINK
AQUARIUS
HMMM...

TEA CLEAR
DEKAREI
BAN J BAN
ISOTONIC DRINK
AQUARIUS
120円
押

ガッ
CLUNK
DEKAREI
BAN J BAN
SEE? WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THAT ONE?
ぶんぶん
SHAKE
HMMM...
A ZEON
B ZAIN
C JIMIN
D KANE
IKKYU-SAN'S ON A QUIZ SHOW!

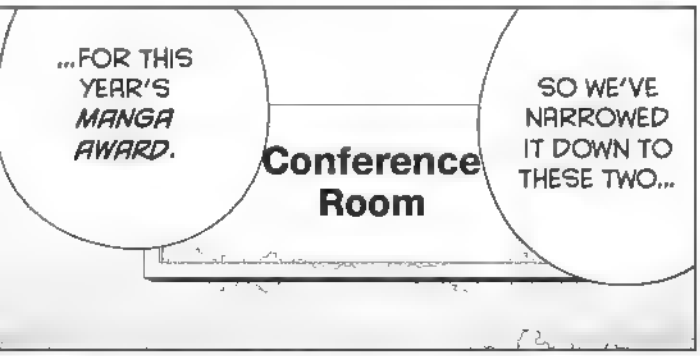

OR C?
A?
...IT'S EITHER A OR C.
WELL I KNOW...

B!

I'M GLAD I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE.

TOO BAD!
I DID IT!
In Stock
Cybernetic TV
Gold Saga

...WHY DOES OUR PSYCHOLOGY DRIVE US TO CHOOSE SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT?
WHEN WE'RE TRYING TO DECIDE BETWEEN TWO THINGS...

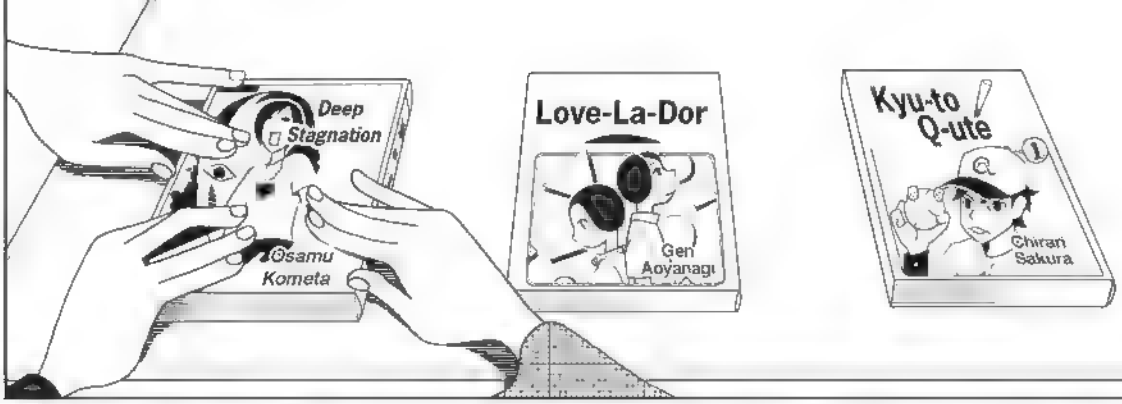

...FOR THIS YEAR'S MANGA AWARD.
Conference Room
SO WE'VE NARROWED IT DOWN TO THESE TWO...

BODANSHA

IT'S EXTREMELY HARD TO CHOOSE.
Love-La-Dor
Gen Aoyanagi
Kyu-to Q-ute
Chiran Sakura
HMM... THEY'RE BOTH ABOUT THE SAME.

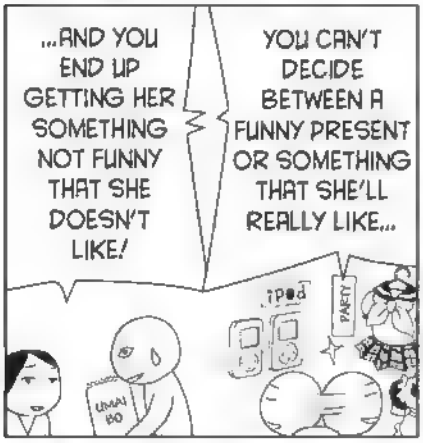
Love-La-Dor
OR THIS ONE?
THIS ONE...?

WHICH SHOULD WE CHOOSE?
WHICH SHOULD WE CHOOSE?


Deep Stagnation
Osamu Kometa
Love-La-Dor
Gen Aoyanagi
Kyu-to Q-ute
Chiran Sakura

THE INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE RESULTING FROM INDECISION!

IT'S STRANGE...
I WONDER WHY WE CHOSE THAT ONE?


...AND YOU END UP GETTING HER SOMETHING NOT FUNNY THAT SHE DOESN'T LIKE!
YOU CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN A FUNNY PRESENT OR SOMETHING THAT SHE'LL REALLY LIKE...
iPod
PARTY
UHAI DO

...AND YOU END UP WITH AN IN-BETWEEN APARTMENT IN NISHIOKA!
YOU CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN A SMALL APARTMENT IN HARAJUKU OR A HUGE ONE IN HOYA...
HOYA 2 BEDROOM 10,000
HARAJUKU STUDIO 10,000

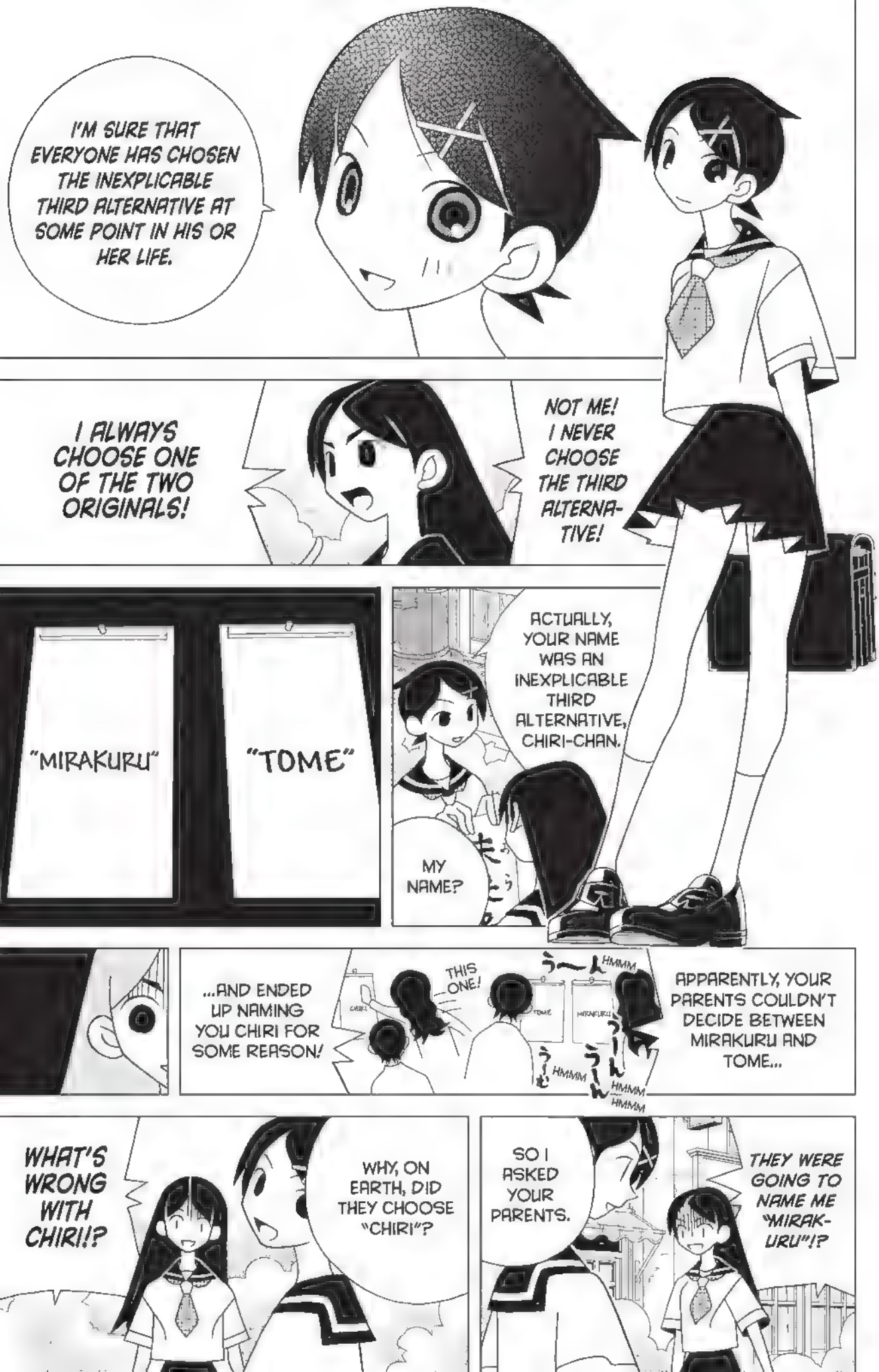
...AND YOU END UP BUYING ONE THAT'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT!
YOU CAN'T DECIDE BETWEEN TWO CARS...
SKYLINE
TOYOTA MARK

Chichibu.
EVERYONE, SAY IT TOGETHER WITH ME.

WE'VE LOST HOPE IN THE INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE RESULTING FROM INDECISION!
WE'RE IN DESPAIR!

YOU CANNOT PASS TOKYO FU
?
?
DEAD END
!
SOUNDS GOOD.
CIGARETTES
WELL, WE'VE SAID IT. SHALL WE GO HOME?
ALL OF YOU GOT LOST, TOO?
Nakata Travel
Nakata Travel
WE'VE GOTTEN LOST.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
第三選択市
Daisan Sentaku City
YOU WERE HERE?
OH NO, SENSEI! LOOK!
...AND ENDED UP IN DAISAN SENTAKU CITY!*
IT SEEMS THAT WE'VE LOST OUR WAY...
* "DAISAN SENTAKU" LITERALLY MEANS "THIRD ALTERNATIVE"
THIS IS A QUESTION OF RESPONSIBILITY!
THIRD ALTERNATIVE CITY??
SCHOOL ENDED HOURS AGO!
IT'S NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF THE SCHOOL!
I ENDED UP IN ANOTHER PREFECTURE WHILE IN THE COMPANY OF MY TEACHER.

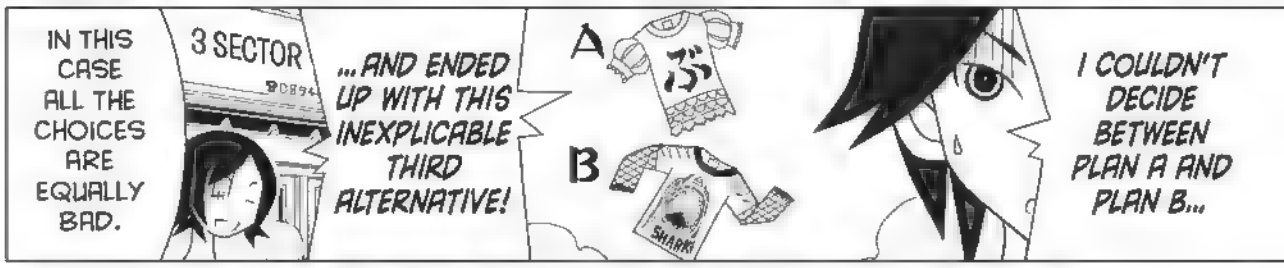
OR NO?
YES?
I DEMAND A YES OR NO ANSWER!
DO YOU ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY OR NOT?
"NES."
IT'S NEITHER YES NOR NO.
ABSOLUTELY "NES."
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
...IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SAY "HAI" OR "IIE."
IN JAPANESE, FOR EXAMPLE, YOU COULD SAY "HAIE"...
IT'S THE THIRD ALTERNATIVE!
OF COURSE YOU ARE!
PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT I'M NOT AVOIDING THE QUESTION.
IT'S THE LANDING SPOT FOR GENTLE-HEARTED SOULS WHO CAN'T MAKE UP THEIR MINDS.
NOT YOU AGAIN.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE.

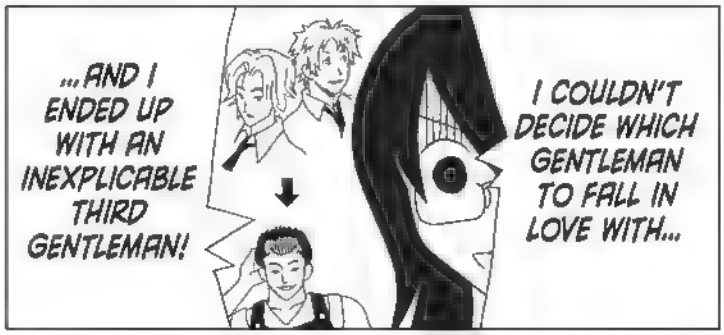

I'M SURE THAT EVERYONE HAS CHOSEN THE INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE AT SOME POINT IN HIS OR HER LIFE.
I ALWAYS CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO ORIGINALS!
NOT ME! I NEVER CHOOSE THE THIRD ALTERNA-TIVE!
"MIRAKURU"
"TOME"
ACTUALLY, YOUR NAME WAS AN INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE, CHIRI-CHAN.
MY NAME?
...AND ENDED UP NAMING YOU CHIRI FOR SOME REASON!
THIS ONE!
HMMM
APPARENTLY, YOUR PARENTS COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN MIRAKURU AND TOME...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH CHIRI!?
WHY, ON EARTH, DID THEY CHOOSE "CHIRI"?
SO I ASKED YOUR PARENTS.
THEY WERE GOING TO NAME ME "MIRAK-URU"!?

BUT IF YOU REALLY WANT ME TO, CHIRI-CHAN...
...I COULD ALWAYS CALL YOU "MIRAKURU."
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY!

SIGNAL

I WONDER WHY I WORE THESE CLOTHES.
KINO-KUN.
3 SECTOR


IN THIS CASE ALL THE CHOICES ARE EQUALLY BAD.
3 SECTOR
...AND ENDED UP WITH THIS INEXPLICABLE THIRD ALTERNATIVE!
A
B
SHARK
I COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN PLAN A AND PLAN B...


...AND I ENDED UP WITH AN INEXPLICABLE THIRD GENTLEMAN!
I COULDN'T DECIDE WHICH GENTLEMAN TO FALL IN LOVE WITH...

FUJIYOSHI-SAN.
I WONDER WHY I CHOSE HIM.

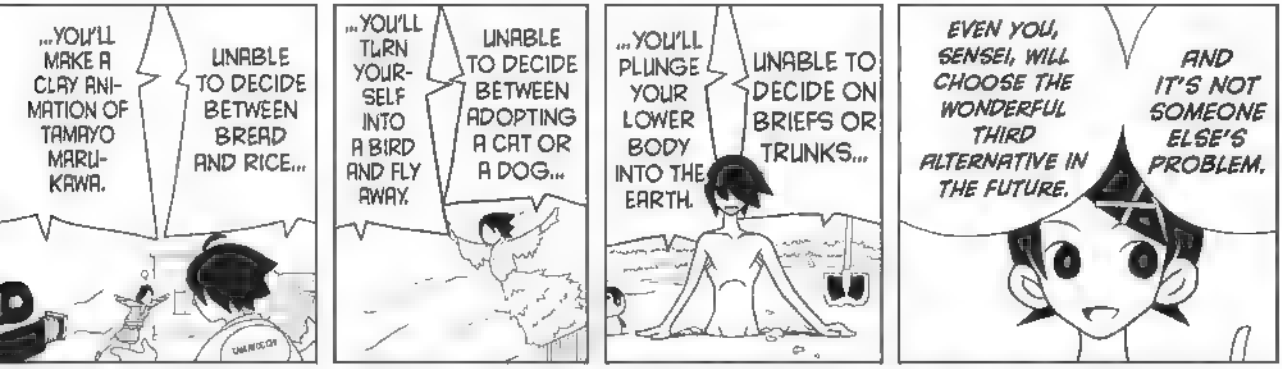
...DAISAN SENTAKU CITY!
THIS IS WHERE ALL THE THIRD ALTERNATIVES GATHER...

I FIGURED AS MUCH.
SHE'S TALKING ABOUT A VIDEO GAME.
OH, HOW FICKLE A GIRL'S HEART CAN BE.

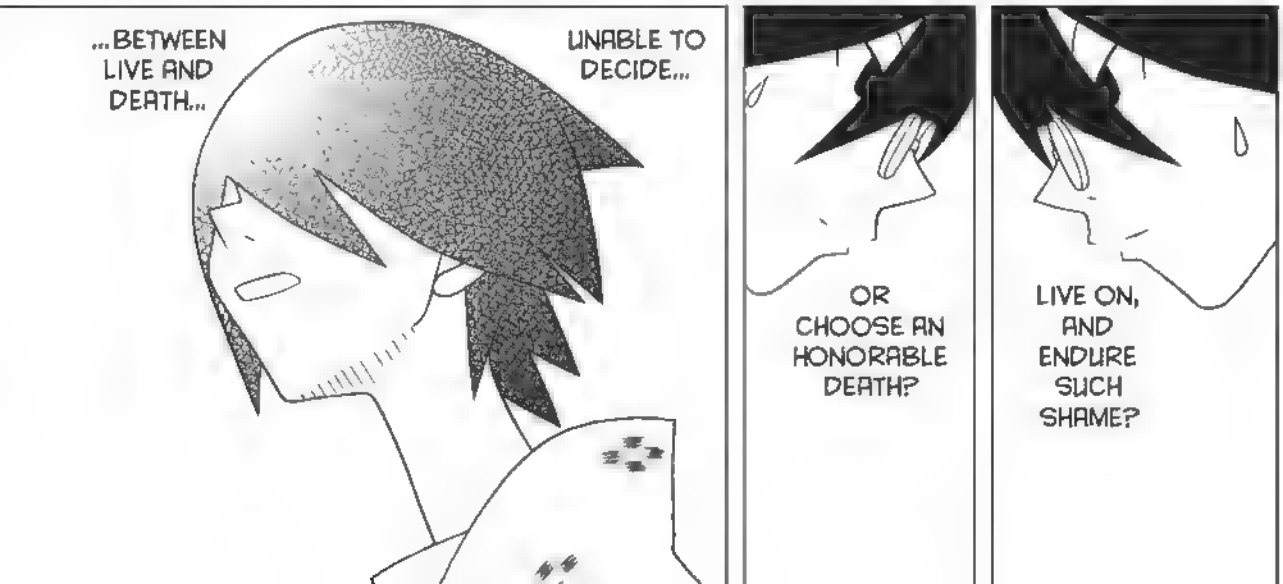
• COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN JAPAN AND BRAZIL, SO CHOSE QATAR
• COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN COMPROMISING AND SIGNING THE DEAL OR MILKING A HIGHER SALARY, AND ENDED UP WITH A PLAYER DEVELOPMENT CONTRACT
• COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN MIYAZAKI OR TAKAHATA, SO THE CURATOR ENDED UP DIRECTING
• COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN MERGING OR SELLING, AND ENDED UP WITH A NEW BASEBALL LEAGUE
• COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN THE OCEAN OR THE MOUNTAINS, SO JUST STUFFED IT IN THE CLOSET AT HOME
OH, THE WONDROUS THIRD ALTERNA-TIVES!

...SO WE ENDED UP STUDYING MORUMORU LANGUAGE!
MORUMORU MORUMO
WE COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN FRENCH OR ITALIAN...
MORERO MORESHAN MORATORIUM
MORURERO MORIRU-MOMORORIRO:
...SO WE ENDED UP USING A BIG TREE TO COMMUNICATE WITH OUTER SPACE!
WE COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN DOCOMO OR AU...

WELL, IT'S THE THIRD ALTERNATIVE. CLEARLY IT SURPASSES ALL IMAGINATION.
...SO WE CHOSE TO LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE WIND!
WE COULDN'T DECIDE BETWEEN THE LEFT BRAIN AND THE RIGHT BRAIN...
ERR... IT SEEMS THAT THE THIRD ALTERNATIVE HAS TAKEN AN ANTISOCIAL TURN.


...YOU'LL MAKE A CLAY ANIMATION OF TAMAYO MARUKAWA.
UNABLE TO DECIDE BETWEEN BREAD AND RICE...
...YOU'LL TURN YOURSELF INTO A BIRD AND FLY AWAY.
UNABLE TO DECIDE BETWEEN ADOPTING A CAT OR A DOG...
...YOU'LL PLUNGE YOUR LOWER BODY INTO THE EARTH.
UNABLE TO DECIDE ON BRIEFS OR TRUNKS...
EVEN YOU, SENSEI, WILL CHOOSE THE WONDERFUL THIRD ALTERNATIVE IN THE FUTURE.
AND IT'S NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEM.

...PERHAPS I SHOULD JUST END IT ALL RIGHT NOW.
RATHER THAN LIVE SUCH A MEANINGLESS EXISTENCE AND BRING SHAME UPON MYSELF...
SHOCK
A LIFE OF THIRD ALTERNATIVES AWAITS YOU!


...BETWEEN LIVE AND DEATH...
UNABLE TO DECIDE...
OR CHOOSE AN HONORABLE DEATH?
LIVE ON, AND ENDURE SUCH SHAME?

*MIRAKURU KITSU

WHY DID I CHOOSE *THIS* ONE?
AWW...
I JUST COULDN'T DECIDE, SO I ENDED UP...
YOU NEVER REGRET YOUR CHOICES. WHAT HAPPENED?
...CHOOSING THIS TOTALLY WEIRD ONE.
OHHH, WHY DID I CHOOSE *THIS* ONE?
WHAT WERE THE OTHER CHOICES?

Nami Hitou (Voiced by: Ryoko Shintani)

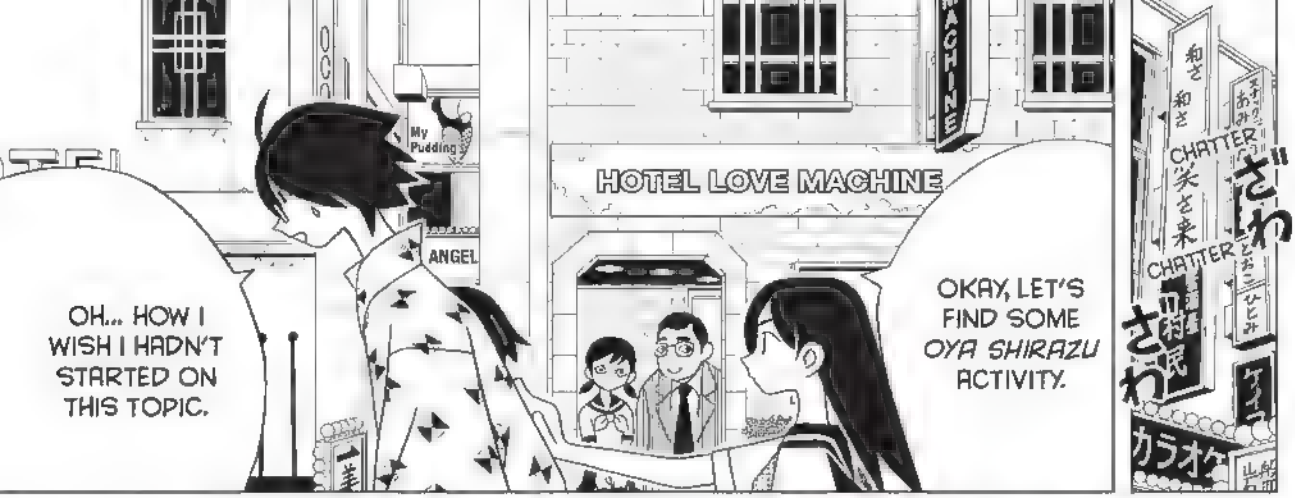
CHAPTER 97

* THIS CHAPTER REVOLVES AROUND A PUN IN JAPANESE. THE JAPANESE WORD FOR "WISDOM TEETH" IS *OYA SHIRAZU*, WHICH LITERALLY TRANSLATES AS "PARENTS DON'T KNOW." THE ORIGIN OF THIS TERM COMES FROM THE FACT THAT WISDOM TEETH APPEAR LATER IN LIFE, AFTER A PERSON HAS LEFT THE CARE OF THE R PARENTS.

DO YOUR PARENTS KNOW?
NOZOMU ITOSHIKI (VOICED BY HIROSHI KAMIYA)
WELL THEN...
I TOLD THEM AT DINNER.
...THEY'RE NOT OYA SHIRAZU ANYMORE, ARE THEY?
THE ORIGIN OF THE NAME COMES FROM THE PAST...
STOP WITH THE DUMB PUNS!
BUT, INSTEAD OF SILLY TEETH...
BUT NOW-ADAYS MOST PARENTS KNOW ABOUT THEM.
...WHEN THE AVERAGE LIFESPAN WAS 50, AND OYA SHIRAZU WOULD POP OUT UNEXPECTEDLY AFTER YOUR PARENTS DIED.
OUCH.

ERP.
...LET US TALK ABOUT MORE IMPORTANT EXAMPLES OF THINGS YOUR PARENTS DON'T KNOW.
I BET THE LIST IS ALMOST ENDLESS!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
AND I BET MOST PARENTS DON'T KNOW WHEN THEIR COLLEGE-AGED DAUGHTER STARTS WORKING AT A NIGHTCLUB!
HERE'S YOUR CRAM SCHOOL MONEY FOR THIS MONTH.
OR THAT YOU STOPPED GOING TO CRAM SCHOOL!
I QUIT.
Cram School
REASSURED MAMA
THAT YOU'RE HANGING OUT WITH A BAD CROWD!
MIYABI
...FOR MATTERS OF GREATER CONSE-QUENCE...
IN AN AGE WHERE TEETH ARE NO LONGER REAL OYA SHIRAZU...
...HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO THEIR "PARENTS," TSUNKU...
AND WHILE KAGO-CHAN AND TSUJI-CHAN'S DELINQUENT BEHAVIOR...
THAT WASN'T A STRETCH AT ALL.
Dental Hygiene Week
SINCE IT'S DENTAL HYGIENE WEEK!
Dental Hygiene Week
Dental Care For Your Dreams
...WE MUST WORK TOWARD EARLY DISCOVERY AND EARLY TREATMENT!

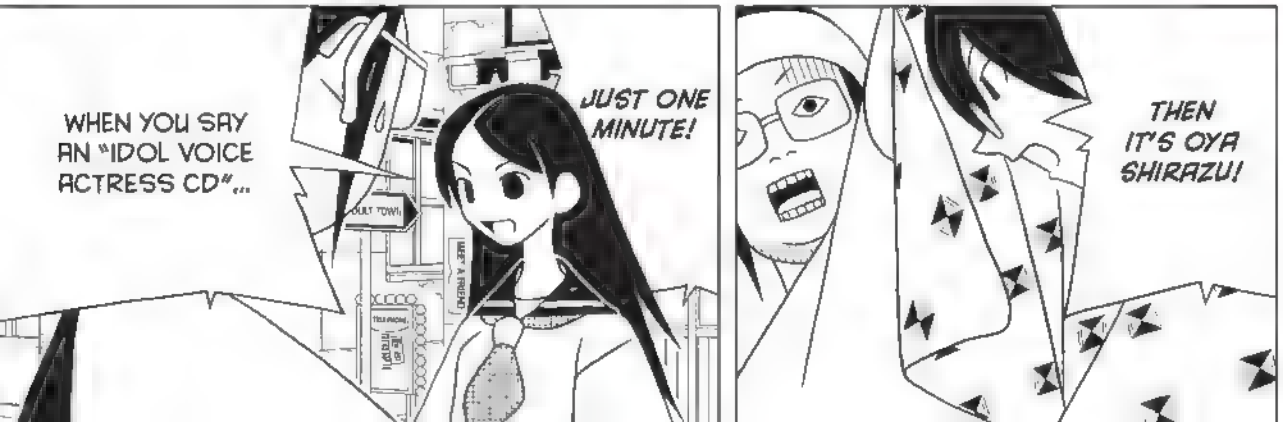
I'M IN DESPAIR OVER A SOCIETY WHERE THERE ARE SO MANY OYA SHIRAZU, AND NOT JUST TEETH!
I'M IN DESPAIR!
SO WHAT PASSES FOR OYA SHIRAZU IN JAPAN, LIKE...
...1) COMPENSATION DATING, 2) DRUGS, AND 3) PREGNANCY?
KAERE KIMURA (VOICED BY YU KOBAYASHI)
ACTUALLY... OYA SHIRAZU OF THAT NATURE...
...SHOULD BE HANDLED BY SPECIALISTS.
LIKE OSAMU MIZUTANI.
CHICKEN-ING OUT AGAIN!
YEAH, SO, IN THE COUNTRY WHERE I LIVED, THE TOP SECRETS KIDS KEPT FROM THEIR PARENTS WERE...
...1) DIGGING VERTICAL WELL SHAFTS, 2) MEAT TOSSING PARTIES, AND 3) SEXUAL HARASSMENT LAWSUITS.
AGAIN, WHICH COUNTRY WERE YOU LIVING IN?
SINCE YOU'RE SO CONCERNED, YOU SHOULD PATROL AROUND TOWN, SENSEI.


My Pudding
ANGEL
HOTEL LOVE MACHINE
CHATTER
CHATTER
カラオケ
OH... HOW I WISH I HADN'T STARTED ON THIS TOPIC.
OKAY, LET'S FIND SOME OYA SHIRAZU ACTIVITY.

COULD YOU BE PURPOSEFULLY IGNORING EVERYTHING, SENSEI?
IT'S ACTUALLY QUITE DIFFICULT TO FIND OYA SHIRAZU WHEN YOU START LOOKING FOR THEM.

WHAT !?
YANK!
HERE'S AN OYA SHIRAZU!

...WITH THE MONEY THEY GAVE YOU FOR STATIONARY?
TH-THEY DON'T.
TELL ME, DO YOUR PARENTS KNOW ABOUT THIS IDOL VOICE ACTRESS CD YOU BOUGHT...
ADULT TOWN

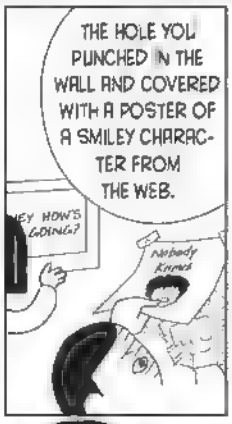

WHEN YOU SAY AN "IDOL VOICE ACTRESS CD"...
JUST ONE MINUTE!
ADULT TOWN
THEN IT'S OYA SHIRAZU!

* OYAKATA ARE SUMO STABLEMASTERS.

COMING FROM YOU, SOMEHOW IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A JOKE.
IT'S TRUE! WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I CAME THIS CLOSE TO KILLING MY PARENTS.

SENSEI.
THERE'S SOME OYA SHIRAZU OVER THERE.
TARO MARIA SEKIUTSU (VOICED BY MIYUKI SAWASHIRO)
IS THIS A SECRET BASE?
HOW NOSTALGIC.
SECRET BASES ARE DEFINITELY OYA SHIRAZU.
I COLLECTED ALL SORTS OF OYA SHIRAZU.
OH! IT'S MAJIRU.

* *"OYA SHIREZU" MEANS "NEVER KNEW OUR PARENTS."*



OF COURSE THEY DON'T!
YOUR PARENTS HAVE NO IDEA THAT YOU DRAW MANGA LIKE THIS, DO THEY?
WAIT A SEC! WHY DO YOU HAVE THAT!?
HARUMI FUJIYOSHI (VOICED BY MIYU MATSUKI)
I'M SORRY. THIS ACTUALLY DOESN'T QUALIFY.
WHISPER
ゴニョゴニョ
SENSEI.

YOU WERE HERE?
PLEASE DON'T WORRY, SENSEI.
...ARE IN FACT *NOT OYA SHIRAZU* MOST OF THE TIME.
THREE UKRANIAN FAIRIES
BOOKS AND DVDS UNDER YOUR BED THAT YOU THINK YOUR PARENTS DON'T KNOW ABOUT...
BUT IT'S NOT EVEN TRUE!
YOU TOLD OUR PARENTS!?
...SO IT'S NOT *OYA SHIRAZU.*
OUR EMOTIONAL INVOLVEMENT HAS BEEN *OFFICIALLY APPROVED BY OUR PARENTS...*
MATOI TSUNETSUKI (VOICED BY ASAMI SANADA)
THE TIME I WAS BORN.
MY PARENTS DIDN'T KNOW.
ABIRU KOBUSHI (VOICED BY YUKO GOTO)
BORN AT 9:00 AM
HRM? THIS WAS ALSO OYA SHIRAZU?
MY PARENTS DIDN'T EVEN KNOW NAGOYA WAS IN AICHI PREFECTURE.
AH, IT CAN BE QUITE DISAPPOINTING WHEN YOUR PARENTS DON'T KNOW SOMETHING YOU EXPECT THEM TO.
EXCUSE MY INTRUSION, BROTHER.
• YOUR NICKNAME AT SCHOOL
• THINGS PEOPLE HAVE SCRIBBLED ON YOUR JACKET
• THAT SCHOOL LUNCHES AREN'T FREE
• THAT THEIR DAUGHTER IS A REGULAR VISITOR TO FANROAD
• THE EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONTENT OF THE GIRLS' MANGA THAT THEIR DAUGHTER IS READING
• THAT THE ANIME TAPESTRY IN HIS ROOM COST 10,000 YEN.
• THAT SLOPPY MANAGEMENT AT THE SUBSIDIARY WILL BRING BANKRUPTCY TO THE PARENT COMPANY
• THE CUCKOO
• UNDERGROUND PARTIES AT THE MITAKA HOUSE
• THAT HIS SON TOOK THE NAME OF SHOZO
• THAT HIS SON IS TRYING TO SHOOT HIM WITH SOLAR RAYS
• THAT HIS SON USES NOTES TO KILL PEOPLE
• THAT THEIR SON'S MANGA HAS BEEN ADAPTED INTO AN ANIME
• WORK ON THE ANIME SERIES PROCEEDS MYSTERIOUSLY WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PARENT (THE MANGA ARTIST)
OH, THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS PARENTS DON'T KNOW!

APPARENTLY BIG BROTHER STILL HASN'T HAD HIS OYA SHIRAZU REMOVED.
RIN ITOSHIKI (VOICED BY/ AKIKO YAJIMA)
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT OUR DEAR PARENTS WOULD LISTEN TO YOUR CONVENIENT LITTLE STORY?
I'VE SENT A LETTER TO BOTH FATHER AND MOTHER EXPLAINING THE SITUATION, SO IT'S NOT A CASE OF OYA SHIRAZU.
IT'S OYA SHIRAZU.
IT'S OYA SHIRAZU.
UNOPENED
AND IN FACT, NEITHER OF THEM KNOWS YET.
...MUST BE STRICTLY DEALT WITH.
OYA SHIRAZU...
うっとり
GLAZE
ABSOLUTELY NO GOOD.
THAT'S NO GOOD.

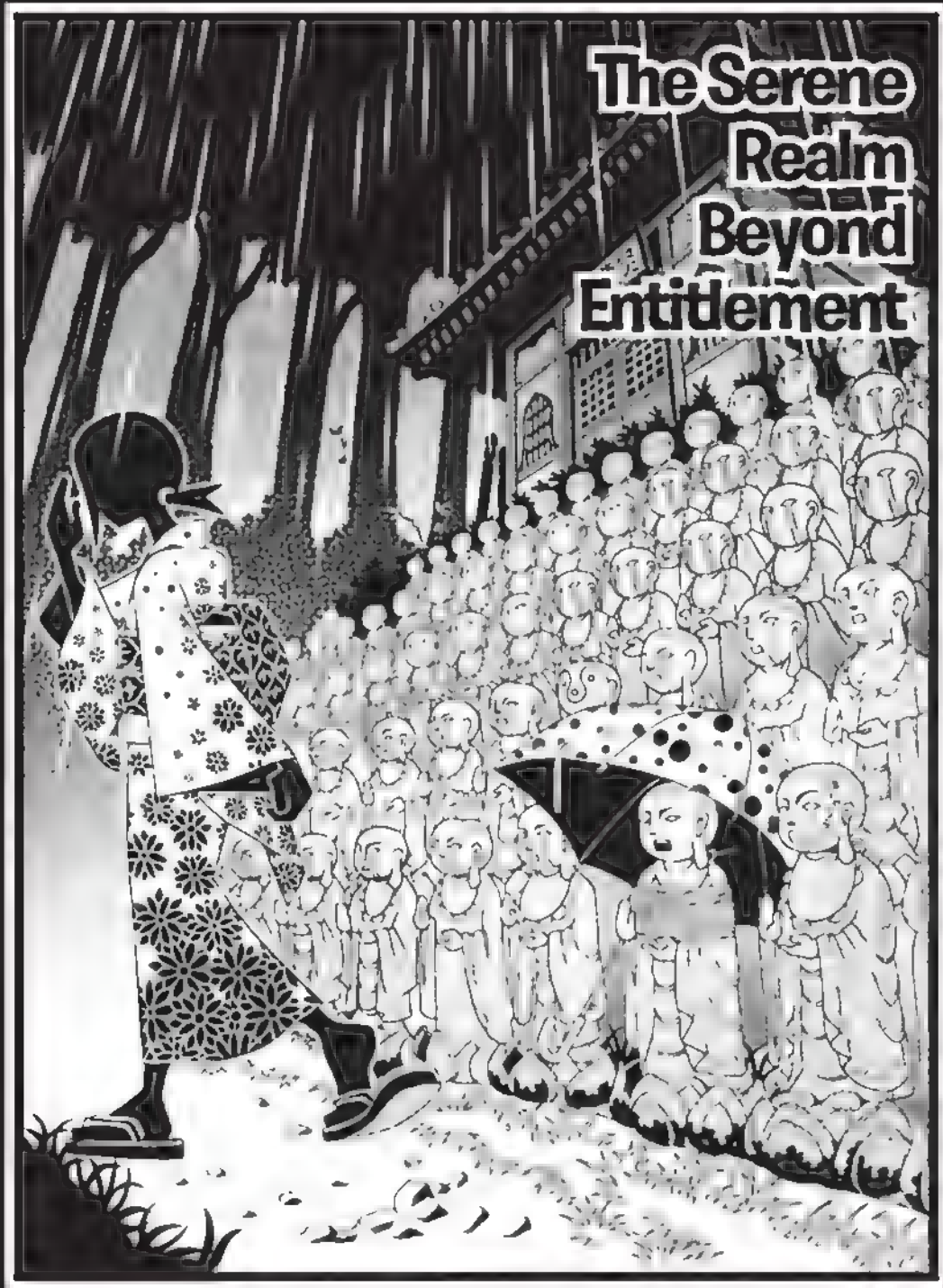
I HATE TEETH EXTRACTIONS!
NOOO!
EXTRACTION! EXTRACTION!
...IT WON'T BE OYA SHIRAZU ANYMORE, AND YOU WON'T HAVE TO GET THEM FIXED!
IF YOU NOTIFY YOUR PARENTS...
ACK.
OH... THEY'RE NOT ANSWERING!
YOU'RE RIGHT. I'LL LET THEM KNOW.
ARRGH
わーーーーーっ
BUT SENSEI, THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS OF NOTIFYING THEM!
My oya shirazu came in.
8:01
My oya shirazu came in.
ANCHOR: TOKUMITSU
I'm tired. I'm going home.
Okina
My oya shirazu came in.
Nozomu
Please come home sometime.
Taiyo
Didn't do it
I'M SURE THEY'LL SEE IT THERE!
IT'S ALRIGHT, SENSEI!
LOOKS LIKE THEY STILL DON'T KNOW!

My oya shirazu came in, Nozomu
My oya shirazu cam
Nozom
SCRITCH
Appeal
Dangerous Act at Yasuda Auditorium
MACKY
came in.
Demonstrations after 20 years
SCRITCH
SCRITCH
MAY YOUR TRUE FEELINGS REACH YOUR PARENTS!
KAFUKA FUURA (VOICED BY AI NONAKA)
MEDITATION
COULD THEY STILL NOT KNOW?
HRM.
SIR, HERE'S THE MORNING EDITION.

↑

SUPER ANNOYING GUY

*A GAYA IS A RECORDING SESSION DURING WHICH ALL THE VOICE ACTORS COME TOGETHER TO RECORD THE BUSY NOISES OF CONVERSATION AND PEOPLE TALKING IN PUBLIC PLACES, CLASSROOMS, ETC.



CHAPTER 98

しとしと
SQUISH
SQUASH
BAMBOO POLE SHOP
BAMBOO POLE
THE SAME PRICES FOR 30 YEARS
MATSUDA LOLITA ENGINE
しっとり。
SQUISH
momo
HERE, TAKE THIS.
YOU POOR THING.
.....
.....

DO YOU THINK THIS WILL HELP YOU DRY OFF A LITTLE?

DASH
HOW UTTERLY IMMATURE OF ME!

I'M NOTHING MORE THAN A VILE HUMAN BEING WHO WAS LOOKING FOR SOME KIND OF REWARD.
YOU DID A GOOD THING.
WHAT'S WRONG?

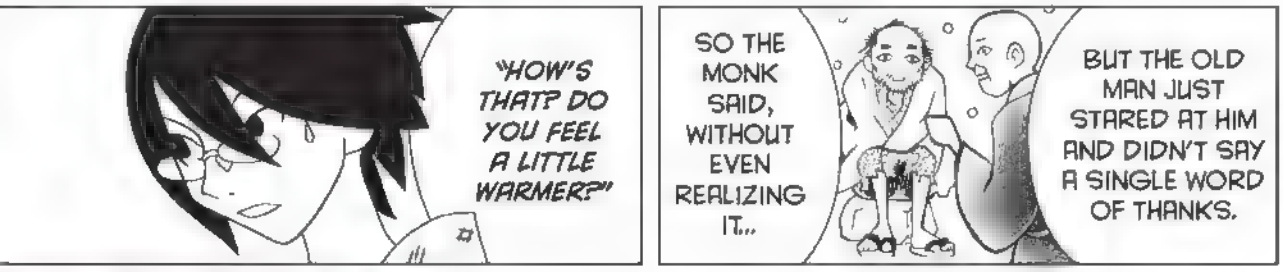
...AS A WAY OF FORCING HIM TO SAY THANK YOU!
I ASKED HIM, "DO YOU THINK THIS WILL HELP YOU DRY OFF A LITTLE?"...
Cabbage

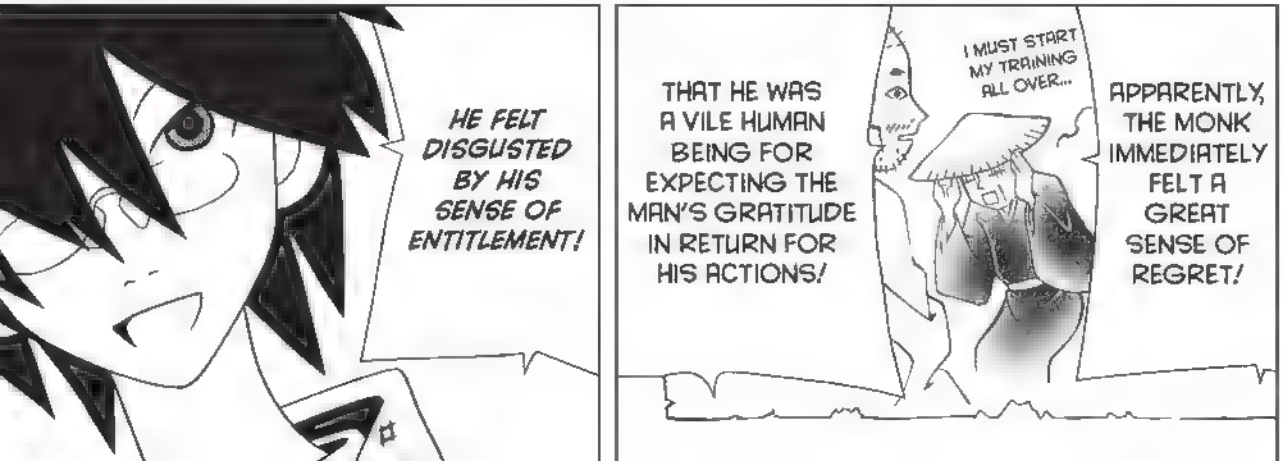
...BY THE WORDS OF GRATITUDE, "THANK YOU!"
I EXPECTED TO BE REWARDED...

I'M SO ASHAMED OF MY SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT!

YOU HAVE A MONK'S COMPLEX.

ON A COLD WINTER'S DAY, HE SAW AN OLD MAN ON THE ROAD, SHIVERING IN THE COLD, AND HE PLACED HIS COAT OVER THE MAN.
A LONG TIME AGO, A FAMOUS MONK HAD THE EXACT SAME EXPERIENCE.


"HOW'S THAT? DO YOU FEEL A LITTLE WARMER?"
SO THE MONK SAID, WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT...
BUT THE OLD MAN JUST STARED AT HIM AND DIDN'T SAY A SINGLE WORD OF THANKS.


HE FELT DISGUSTED BY HIS SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT!
THAT HE WAS A VILE HUMAN BEING FOR EXPECTING THE MAN'S GRATITUDE IN RETURN FOR HIS ACTIONS!
I MUST START MY TRAINING ALL OVER...
APPARENTLY, THE MONK IMMEDIATELY FELT A GREAT SENSE OF REGRET!

PEOPLE SO EASILY ADOPT A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT.
OH NO! THERE'S NO WAY I COULD BE!
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE STILL YOUNG, IT SEEMS THAT YOU'RE HEADING TOWARD SOME KIND OF ENLIGHT-ENMENT.
SENSEI.
I BAKED SOME COOKIES. TRY ONE!
.....

THEY'RE GOOD, RIGHT?
CRUNCH CRUNCH
I WAS REALLY CAREFUL WITH THE INGREDIENTS AND USED UNSALTED BUTTER FROM HOKKAIDO.
AND I ORDERED THE NUTS ALL THE WAY FROM SPAIN!
I RUBBED THE INGREDIENTS TOGETHER BY HAND, SO THE TEXTURE IS GREAT.
...SUCH A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT.
THAT'S WHY IT TAKES SO MUCH TIME AND EFFORT.
EXCUSE ME? DID YOU JUST MUTTER, "SUCH A SENSE OF ENTITLE-MENT"!?
I COULDN'T HAVE... NO....

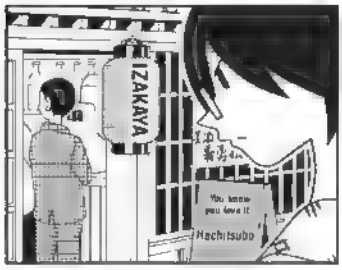
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN BY A SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT.
COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST SAY THANK YOU!?
AFTER ALL I WENT THROUGH TO MAKE THEM!

YOU'RE A GRATITUDE THIEF!

YOUR COOKIE WAS NOT AN ACT OF GOODWILL, BUT RATHER A DEMAND!
YOU EXPECTED THE REWARD OF MY GRATI-TUDE!

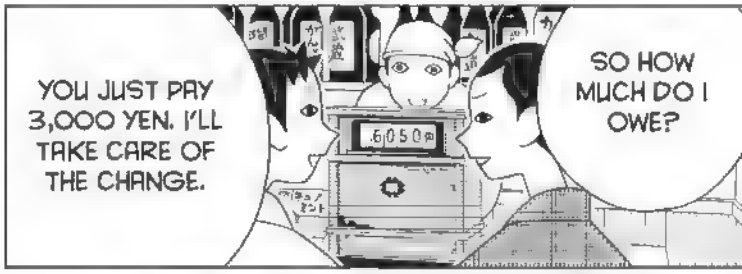
I... I MAY HAVE SAID TOO MUCH.
THAT'S SO MEAN!

G-GRATITUDE THIEF..?


IZAKAYA
You know you love it
Hachitsubo

...OF PEOPLES' SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT.
BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT IN THIS WORLD, THERE IS NO SHORTAGE ...

THINGS MUST BE ROUGH FOR YOU, HAVING JUST HAD A CHILD AND ALL.


YOU JUST PAY 3,000 YEN. I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE CHANGE.
SO HOW MUCH DO I OWE?

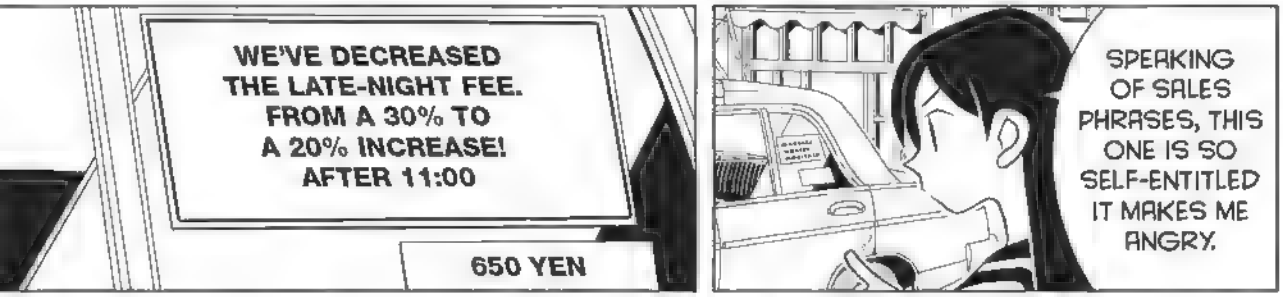
PEOPLE WHO EXPECT GRATITUDE JUST BECAUSE THEY PAY A LITTLE EXTRA.
OH... I KNOW THAT TYPE.

OH NO, IT'S TOTALLY FINE.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
BEER

EGA MACRO 330 YEN
SMILE 0 YEN
ABE FILEO
THE ENTITLEMENT THERE IS EQUALLY APPALLING.
...SO I NEVER FEEL OBLIGED FOR ANYTHING!
HAPPY SET
にっ GRIN
THAT'S WHY I NEVER MAKE EYE CONTACT WITH THE EMPLOYEES...
...'YOU BETTER BE GRATEFUL!'
THEY'RE BASICALLY SAYING, "HERE, WE'LL GIVE YOU A FREE SMILE...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH REPAYING A DEBT?
IT'S JUST A NORMAL GIVE-AND-TAKE!
WELL, IT IS A FOREIGN COMPANY.
WHERE HAS THE JAPANESE VIRTUE OF HUMILITY AND SELFLESSNESS GONE, I WONDER?
WITNESS A BATTLE OF WILLS BETWEEN INGRATITUDE AND ENTITLEMENT.
I BET PEOPLES' SENSE OF ENTITLEMENT IS GROWING BECAUSE OF ALL THE UNGRATEFUL PEOPLE OUT THERE.
YOU TWO WERE HERE?
ABE FILEO
?
すすっ SUCK SUCK
ちゅー GULP
ちゅぱ GULP
ちゅぱ GULP
OKAY.
SNAP
ぽきっ
YOU CAN HAVE THIS ONE.
WHAT!? WHY?
AT LEAST SAY THANK YOU!

TUG TUG
WHO ARE YOU CALLING ENTITLED!?
WHO ARE YOU CALLING UNGRATE-FUL!?
IT'S UNGRATEFUL VS. ENTITLED GIRL.
0 YEN PHONES
(NEW)
CELL SHOP
0 YEN PHONES
OTONASHI-SAN
THEY'RE DEFINITELY OUT FOR A REWARD!
OH! ZERO YEN CELL PHONES ARE A PRODUCT OF ENTITLEMENT, TOO!
YES, THAT'S USUALLY HOW A PHONE PLAN WORKS.
"SO YOU BETTER RETURN THE FAVOR BY PAYING FOR THE SERVICE!"
IT'S LIKE THEY'RE SAYING, "I'LL SELL YOU A PHONE FOR ZERO YEN,"
...USING FREE PRODUCTS AS CENTRAL MARKETING?
A Special Plan Just for Family!
Half-Off
A "You" Discount
Cell Phone Take-Home 0 Yen
W Plan 0 Yen
HASN'T THE BUSINESS OF ENTITLEMENT GONE TOO FAR RECENTLY...
ARE YOU JUST READING MERU-CHAN'S MESSAGE OUT LOUD?
Telephone
WHAT'S THAT?
0 YEN TAKE 'EM!
AND STOP SUBSIDIZING FREE CELL PHONES BY CHARGING EXORBITANT UPGRADE FEES TO EXISTING CUSTOMERS, YOU BASTARDS!

THEY SAY IT'S "FOR THE CUSTOMER," BUT IT MAKES YOU THINK... ISN'T IT REALLY FOR THEIR BUSINESS?
FOR THE CUSTOMER!
FREE BLEEDING!
Premiering in Japan Before Anywhere Else in the World!
FREE GIFTS TO ALL RESPONDENTS!!!!
嬉しい全プ!
YOU'RE RIGHT THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF SELF-ENTITLED PHRASES OUT THERE.


WE'VE DECREASED THE LATE-NIGHT FEE. FROM A 30% TO A 20% INCREASE! AFTER 11:00
650 YEN
SPEAKING OF SALES PHRASES, THIS ONE IS SO SELF-ENTITLED IT MAKES ME ANGRY.

- "WE'LL GET RID OF OUR NUCLEAR WEAPONS"
- AMERICA'S POLICIES TO LIBERATE IRAQ
- THE SPECIAL PRICE OF SHONEN MAGAZINE AND SUNDAY
- SAYING THINGS LIKE, BE INTOXICATED BY MY PLAY
- THE ATTITUDE OF DOCTORS (LIKE, "I'M SAVING YOUR LIFE")
- CELL PHONE COMPANIES' ATTITUDES OF "THIS TIME WE'LL REPLACE IT FOR FREE"
- A HOST WHO SAYS, "BE GRATEFUL, I'M ALLOWING YOU TO HAVE A DREAM/"
- FRENCH PEOPLE SAYING THAT THEY'LL LET JAPAN DRINK BEAUJOLAIS BEFORE ANYONE ELSE
- WE GAVE YOU A PANDA. GIVE US CASH/
- SMOKERS SAYING THAT THEY'RE CONTRIBUTING TO TAX REVENUES
- THE ITALIAN CARMAKER WHO SAID IT WOULD "SHARE WITH ITS CUSTOMERS"
- I FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING SELF-ENTITLED ABOUT THIS LIST PLOT DEVICE TOO, SORRY

THEY HAVE FOLLOWED THE PATH OF THE BUDDHA IN ORDER TO ADOPT A MONK-LIKE SPIRIT AND REFORM THEMSELVES.
FORMERLY SELF-ENTITLED INDIVIDUALS ARE DESCENDING FROM THE TEMPLE STAIRS.
KOKOMI-
BUT IT'LL BE FINE, SENSEI.

...WE SUDDENLY SWITCHED TO DIGITAL BROADCASTING! SORRY!
地
IN AN ACT OF SELF-ENTITLED GOODWILL, AND TO ENSURE OUR CUSTOMER'S FUTURE HAPPINESS...
...WE TOLD HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL PLAYERS WE WOULD "OVERLOOK THEM!"
EVEN THOUGH WE WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR PERMITTING THE ILLEGAL PAYMENTS...
野連
...WE WENT AHEAD AND CALLED OUR RESPONSE "SALVATION MEASURES."
EVEN THOUGH WE WERE THE ONES WHO LOST PENSION DATA...
...I ASKED MY EX-ASSISTANT TO DESIGN THE EYE-CATCH AT THE END OF THE EPISODE! I'M SORRY!
また見てね
POINTING OUT HOW MUCH I'D DONE FOR HER OVER THE YEARS...
...AND THEN I EXPECTED A LITTLE SOMETHING IN RETURN!
I TOLD HER I WOULD MAKE HER A VOICE ACTRESS...
THIS KIND OF STUFF REALLY PISSES ME OFF!
W- WOW... SHE EVEN WENT AFTER GOD!
IT'S A MEMENTO TO THE PRE-MEIJI MIXTURE OF SHINTO AND BUDDHIST!
GLARE
WHY ARE YOU DRESSED AS A MIKO AT A BUDDHIST TEMPLE?
MAKE UP YOUR MIND!
DO YOU BELIEVE IN KAMI GODS OR IN THE BUDDHA!?
HUH? WHAT'S THAT UNCONVINCED EXPRESSION?
TAKE & TAKE
Philanthropy
YES, OF COURSE.
SO HAVE YOU REALLY REFORMED YOURSELVES?

I SEE YOU HAVEN'T REFORMED AT ALL.
COULDN'T YOU AT LEAST BE A LITTLE GRATEFUL?
WE WENT AND GOT REFORMED JUST FOR YOU!

OH NO... I DON'T WANT TO BECOME LIKE THAT.
BUT THAT STILL SOUNDS SELF-ENTITLED.
WE REFORMED... JUST FOR YOU!

OH... SURE. IF MY NOTES ARE GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU.
KAGA-SAN, COULD I BORROW YOUR MATH NOTES?
Nobel Prize

PLEASE DON'T OWE ME ONE!
PLEASE DON'T!

OH!
MAN, YOU SAVED ME! I OWE YOU ONE.
Moral Education

YOU SWEPT UP EVEN THOUGH THAT WAS MY TASK. I OWE YOU ONE.

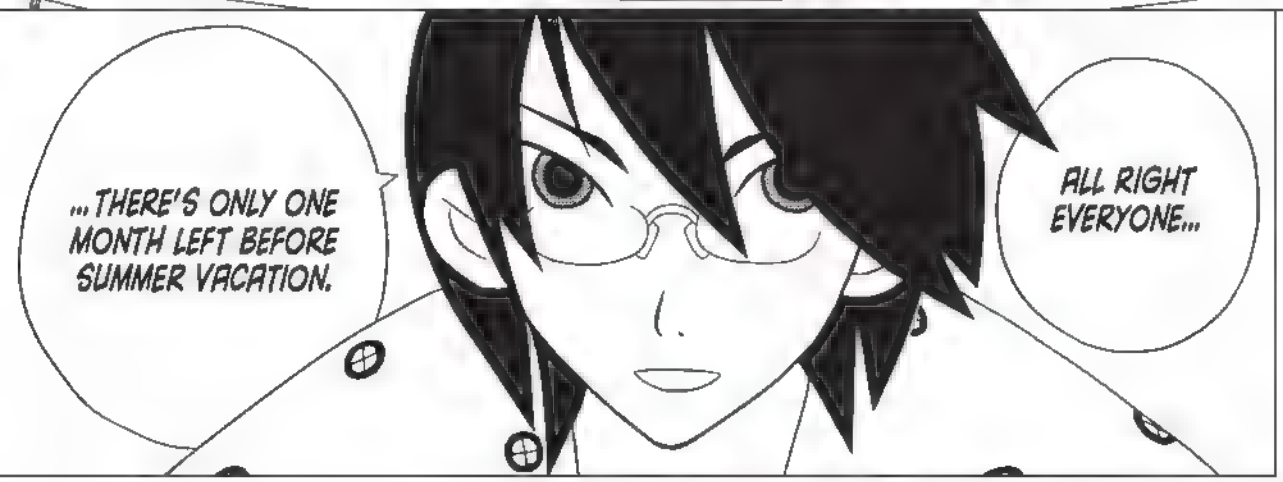
さっさっ
SWEEP
SWEEP
WHY? NO MATTER WHAT I DO, I SEEM LIKE A SELF-ENTITLED WOMAN!

D-
D-
FLAT-OUT...
UNLESS YOU FLAT-OUT REJECT HIM, HE'S GOING TO THINK HE OWES YOU ONE.
OH NO!

DON'T THINK I DID IT FOR YOU!
ほれっ
BLUSH
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA!
ほいっ
TURN
ほれっ
BLUSH
I DIDN'T TAKE THEM FOR YOU!
DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA!
THANKS FOR THE NOTES.
NOTE
...A TSUNDERE CHARACTER!
KAGA-CHAN'S BECOMING...
HUH?
TELL ME, KUDO, ARE YOU INTO ANY GIRLS?
THAT'S WRONG!
...THEY BECOME A TSUNDERE.
AS PEOPLE ACCUMULATE VIRTUES...

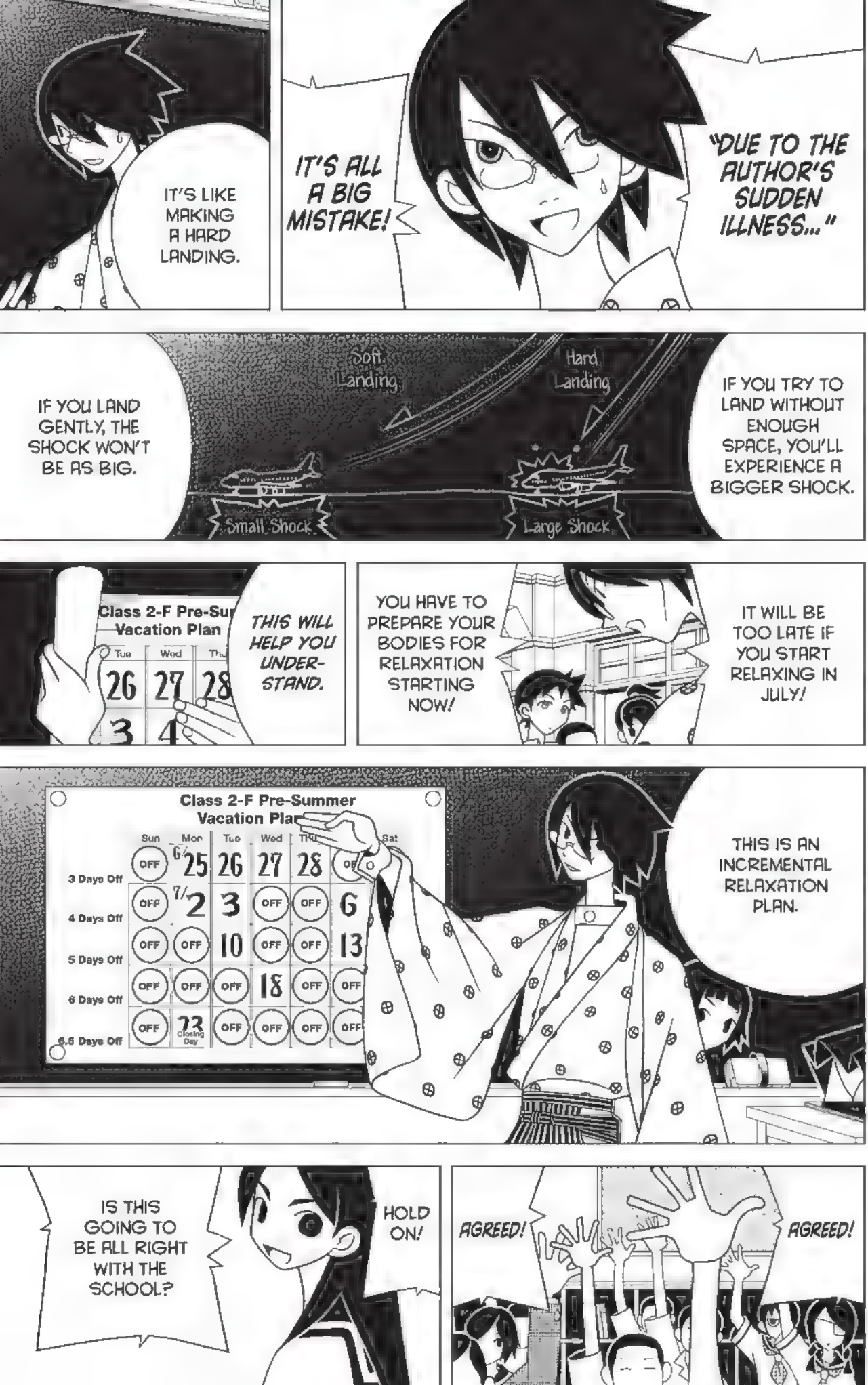
D-...
DO-...
UH...
ER....
DON'T THINK I WANTED YOU TO BUY IT FOR ME!
MAYBE SHE'S A TSUNWABI?
OH... THAT'S NOT NICE. I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!

CHAPTER 99

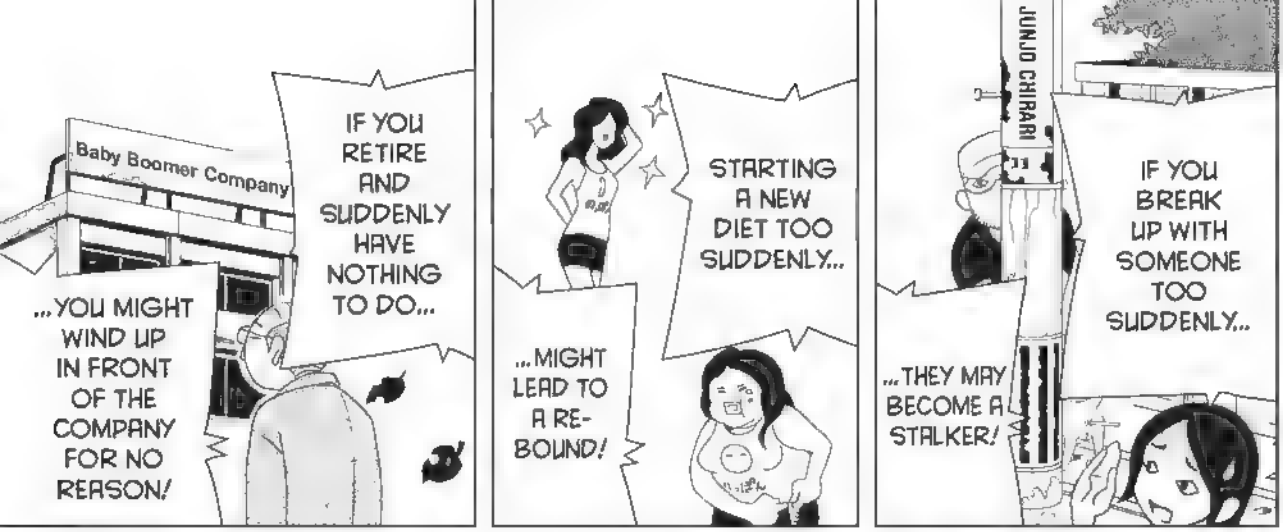

...THERE'S ONLY ONE MONTH LEFT BEFORE SUMMER VACATION.
ALL RIGHT EVERYONE...

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?
BUT WE HAVE AN ENTIRE MONTH.
YOU SHOULD ALL START MAKING PREPARATIONS TO RELAX SOON, OR YOU'LL BE TOO LATE.
HUH?

IF YOU RELAX TOO SUDDENLY...
...YOUR BODY WON'T BE ABLE TO HANDLE IT!
Deleted
Adult (Circumcised)
FAN
ATHLETES PRODUCE LACTIC ACID (FROM FATIGUE) IF THEY STOP SUDDENLY AFTER EXERTING THEMSELVES...
GOAL
MOSEY
...SO INSTEAD, THEY COOL DOWN WITH LIGHT EXERCISE AFTER A RACE!
ANYWAY, IT'S BAD TO DO ANYTHING TOO SUDDENLY!
LIKE SUDDEN BRAKING, SUDDEN CURVES, OR NOSEDIVES!

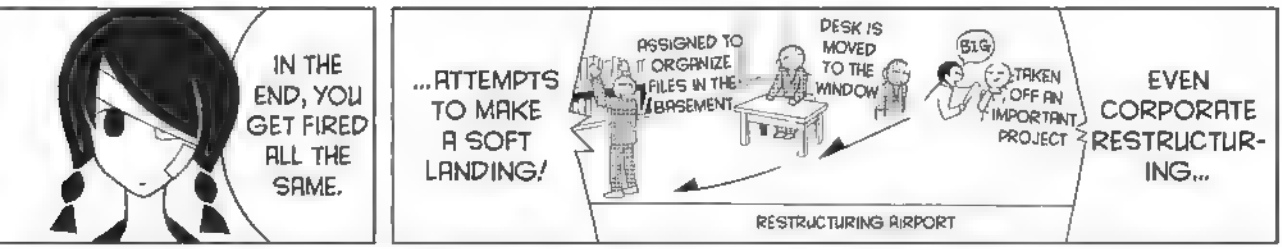

IT'S LIKE MAKING A HARD LANDING.
IT'S ALL A BIG MISTAKE!
"DUE TO THE AUTHOR'S SUDDEN ILLNESS..."
IF YOU LAND GENTLY, THE SHOCK WON'T BE AS BIG.
Soft Landing
Hard Landing
Small Shock
Large Shock
IF YOU TRY TO LAND WITHOUT ENOUGH SPACE, YOU'LL EXPERIENCE A BIGGER SHOCK.
Class 2-F Pre-Su
Vacation Plan
Tue
Wed
Thu
26
27
28
3
4
THIS WILL HELP YOU UNDER-STAND.
YOU HAVE TO PREPARE YOUR BODIES FOR RELAXATION STARTING NOW!
IT WILL BE TOO LATE IF YOU START RELAXING IN JULY!
Class 2-F Pre-Summer Vacation Plan
Sun
Mon
Tue
Wed
Thu
Sat
3 Days Off
4 Days Off
5 Days Off
6 Days Off
6.5 Days Off
OFF
6/25
26
27
28
7/2
3
6
10
13
18
22
Closing Day
THIS IS AN INCREMENTAL RELAXATION PLAN.
IS THIS GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT WITH THE SCHOOL?
HOLD ON!
AGREED!
AGREED!

I THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO GRADUALLY INCREASE VACATION.
IT'S AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.
IT'S NOT GOOD TO APPROACH ANYTHING SUDDENLY.
YOU TOO, CHIE-SENSEI!?
I'LL GO NEGOTIATE WITH THE PRINCIPAL FOR YOU.
I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOUR INSIGHT, CHIE-SENSEI!
SIGH
THANK YOU SO MUCH!
IT'S NOT GOOD TO APPROACH ANYTHING TOO SUDDENLY.
YOU SEE, CHIE-SENSEI GAVE HER STAMP OF APPROVAL.


Baby Boomer Company
IF YOU RETIRE AND SUDDENLY HAVE NOTHING TO DO...
...YOU MIGHT WIND UP IN FRONT OF THE COMPANY FOR NO REASON!
STARTING A NEW DIET TOO SUDDENLY...
...MIGHT LEAD TO A RE-BOUND!
JUNJO CHIRARI
IF YOU BREAK UP WITH SOMEONE TOO SUDDENLY...
...THEY MAY BECOME A STALKER!

• TOTAL VOLUME CONTROLS FROM THE BUBBLE ERA
• GENKI SUDO'S SUDDEN RETIREMENT
• SUDDENLY BEING CALLED "NAKITA-SHI"
• SUDDEN CHANGES IN THE HELLO PROJECT MEMBERSHIP
TAMAYO MARUKAWA'S SUDDEN CANDIDACY
WATCHING HIROHI SUZUMIYA FROM THE FIRST EPISODE
(APPARENTLY BEGINNERS ARE SUPPOSED TO START FROM THE SECOND EPISODE)
• MY STOMACH WHEN I ATE SOMETHING SPICY IN BEIJING
• THE CLOSING OF FRENCH LANGUAGE SCHOOLS
• DEBUTING YOUR COSPLAY CAREER IN A PLUGSUIT
• LISTENING TO SPITZ FROM THEIR FIRST ALBUM
(BEGINNERS SHOULD START LISTENING FROM THE THIRD ALBUM!)
• DEBUTING YOUR GOTHIC LOLITA CAREER AS A ROCKING HORSE BALLERINA
• TOSHI-CHAN'S HAIR GROWTH
A SUDDEN CHANGE IN DIRECTOR
• EVOLUTION OF CIVILIZATION AFTER THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
• THE EXPANSION OF THE EU
• MAGAZINE SALES
YOU MUSTN'T EVER MAKE HARD LANDINGS!

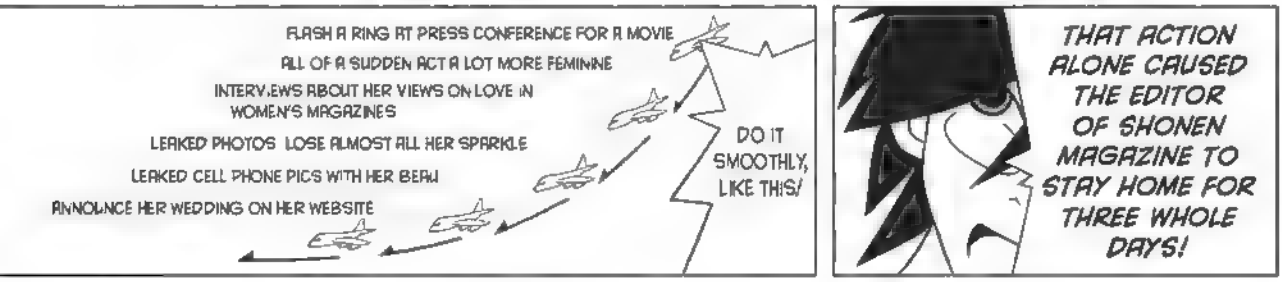
I'M IN DESPAIR OVER OUR HARD-LANDING SOCIETY!
I'M IN DESPAIR!


IN THE END, YOU GET FIRED ALL THE SAME.
...ATTEMPTS TO MAKE A SOFT LANDING!
ASSIGNED TO ORGANIZE FILES IN THE BASEMENT
DESK IS MOVED TO THE WINDOW
BIG
TAKEN OFF AN IMPORTANT PROJECT
EVEN CORPORATE RESTRUCTURING...
RESTRUCTURING AIRPORT

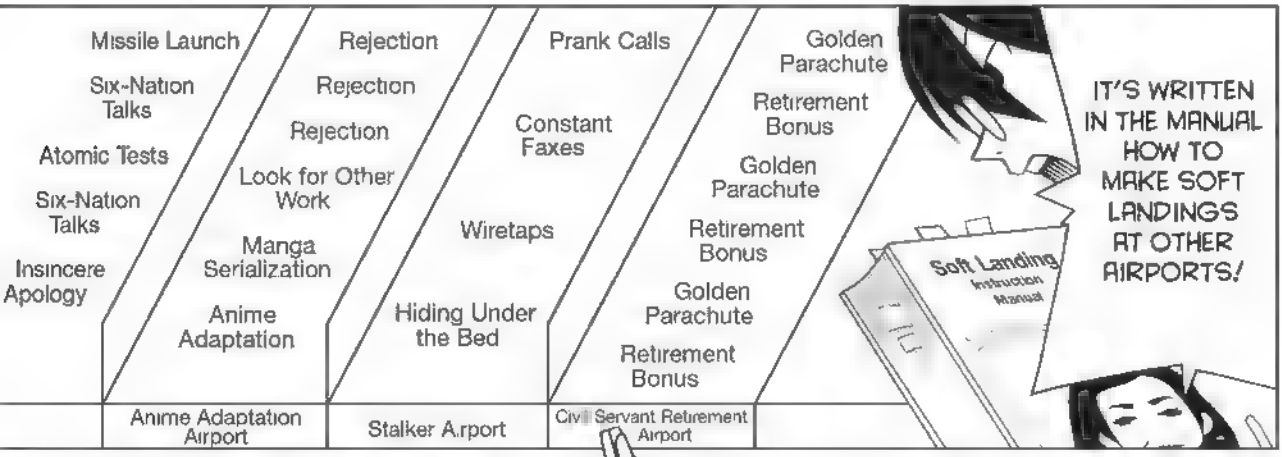
THAT'S WHY I'VE PREPARED A LANDING SIMULATOR OVER HERE.
...IT'S IMPORTANT TO TRY TO MAKE A SMOOTH LANDING.
NO MATTER WHAT YOU'RE DOING...

WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S A SIMULATOR FOR MAKING SOFT-LANDINGS IN LIFE.
TRY TO MAKE A GOOD LANDING.
Mission 1
ALL RIGHT, IT'S BEGINNING!
ARGH...!
ER... I GUESS I'LL START BY LETTING THE ARTIST KNOW WHAT HIS LAST ISSUE IS GOING TO BE...
Land in the END OF SERIALIZATION AIRPORT!!
WHAT'S THIS?
YOU HAVE TO START WITH A GENTLE COMMENT FROM THE EDITOR ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU'D LIKE TO READ A DIFFERENT WORK BY THE ARTIST.
THAT WAS A HARD LANDING.
YOUR APPROACHING SPEED IS WAY TOO HIGH!
ビーッ
速度が
警告
WARNING!
ビーッ
FAILED
HOW SHOULD I KNOW THAT!?
"OKAY GREAT! SO WE'LL BRING THIS SERIES TO AN END SO YOU CAN WORK ON YOUR NEXT ONE!"
"NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, THE CONCEPT YOU TOLD ME ABOUT BEFORE FOR THE NEXT SERIES YOU WERE PLANNING SOUNDED KIND OF INTERESTING."
すろーり
SWOOP
SMOOTH
"YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'D ENJOY WORKING ON A RANGE OF PROJECTS INSTEAD OF JUST ONE."
THIS IS HOW YOU MAKE A SOFT LANDING!

TERBURNER
THAT'S A HARD LANDING!
LET'S SEE... ANNOUNCE IT ON MY WEBSITE...
Aoi Miyazaki Wedding Airport
WHAT'S THIS?
OKAY, THE NEXT ONE'S STARTING!


FLASH A RING AT PRESS CONFERENCE FOR A MOVIE
ALL OF A SUDDEN ACT A LOT MORE FEMININE
INTERVIEWS ABOUT HER VIEWS ON LOVE IN WOMEN'S MAGAZINES
LEAKED PHOTOS LOSE ALMOST ALL HER SPARKLE
LEAKED CELL PHONE PICS WITH HER BEAU
ANNOUNCE HER WEDDING ON HER WEBSITE
DO IT SMOOTHLY, LIKE THIS!
THAT ACTION ALONE CAUSED THE EDITOR OF SHONEN MAGAZINE TO STAY HOME FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS!

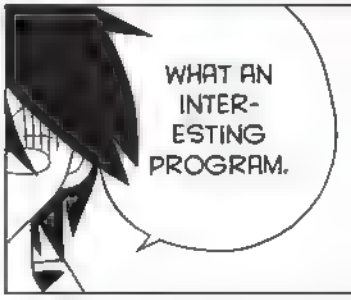
CALIFORNIA ROLL
EGG
SWEET SHRIMP
TUNA
SEA URCHIN
GIZZARD SHAD
MACKEREL
THAT'S CORRECT! DO IT LIKE THIS!
I GUESS STARTING RIGHT AWAY WITH OZAKANA IS A HARD LANDING.
Which Sushi to Recommend To Foreigners Airport


Missile Launch
Six-Nation Talks
Atomic Tests
Six-Nation Talks
Insincere Apology
Rejection
Rejection
Rejection
Look for Other Work
Manga Serialization
Anime Adaptation
Prank Calls
Constant Faxes
Wiretaps
Hiding Under the Bed
Golden Parachute
Retirement Bonus
Golden Parachute
Retirement Bonus
Golden Parachute
Retirement Bonus
Anime Adaptation Airport
Stalker Airport
Civil Servant Retirement Airport
Soft Landing Instruction Manual
IT'S WRITTEN IN THE MANUAL HOW TO MAKE SOFT LANDINGS AT OTHER AIRPORTS!

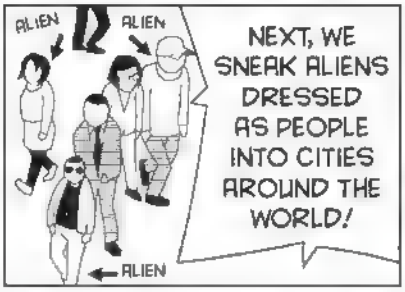
RBURNER
1-10-
YPE
ARE YOU SURE?
HERE I GO.
I WANT TO TRY TOO.

Contact with Aliens Airport

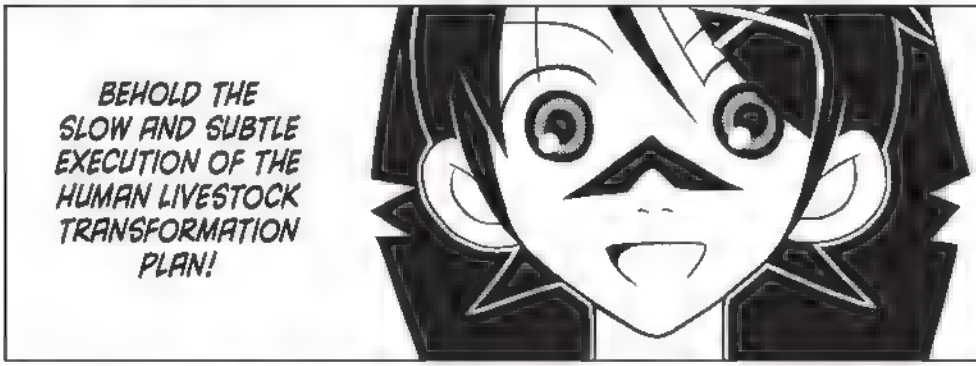
OH...?
...SO WE HAVE TO PREPARE THEM FOR THAT DAY BIT BY BIT.
I GET IT! HUMANKIND WOULD BE SCARED TO HAVE SUDDEN CONTACT...


WHAT AN INTER-ESTING PROGRAM.

EVENTUALLY, ALIENS TAKE OVER IMPOR-TANT POSTS AS PUBLIC FIGURES AND STRENGTHEN THEIR CON-TROL...


ALIEN
ALIEN
ALIEN
NEXT, WE SNEAK ALIENS DRESSED AS PEOPLE INTO CITIES AROUND THE WORLD!

EEK!
EXCUSE ME!
START BY INTRODUCING ALIENS TO SPECIFIED PEOPLE IN RESTRICTED AREAS!


BEHOLD THE SLOW AND SUBTLE EXECUTION OF THE HUMAN LIVESTOCK TRANSFORMATION PLAN!
AND BEFORE THEY REALIZE IT, HUMANS ARE TURNED INTO MINCED MEAT AND SHIPPED OFF TO STAR SYSTEM 64!

...I SEE A GIRL FROM OUR CLASS IN HER BATHING SUIT AT THE PUBLIC POOL.
DURING SUMMER VACATION, I HAVE A HARD LANDING WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN...

UM...

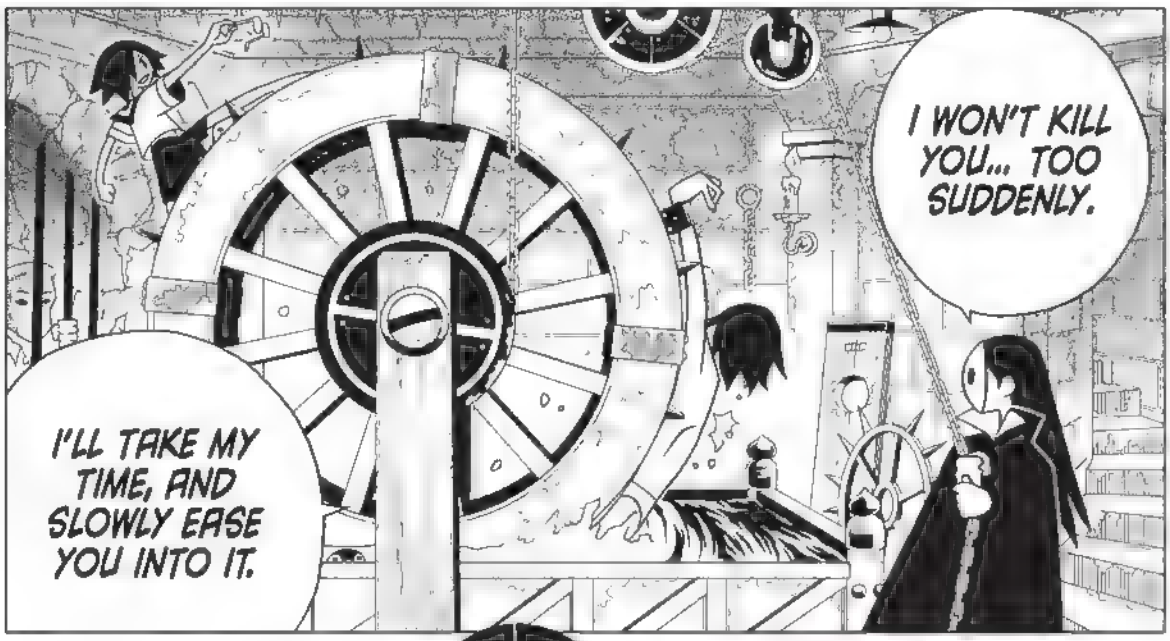
I DID IT!
SOMETHING ABOUT THE GOAL OF THAT MISSION SEEMED TO CHANGE HALFWAY...

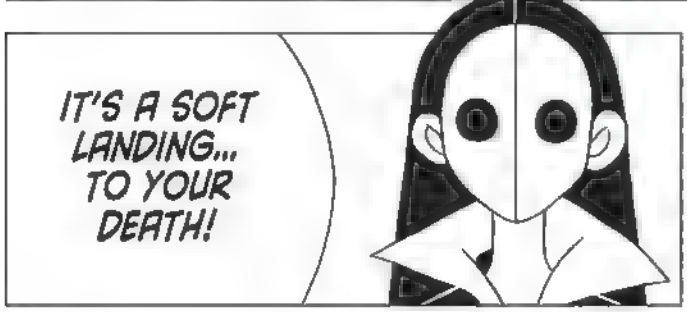
NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT LAST STAGE.
IT WOULD BE REALLY HELPFUL IF THEY COULD GRADUALLY SWITCH TO FEWER AND FEWER CLOTHES.
I'LL SUE YOU!
WHAT !?
THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN, KAERE-CHAN.
WOW
SHE'S POSING AT THE SAME TIME SHE'S THREATENING TO SUE.
GLEAM
キラーン
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME YOU'VE REALLY EXERTED YOUR WILL.
THAT'S IT. NO BEACH FOR ME.
... SHOULD COME INTO CLASS WEARING HALF THEIR BATHING SUIT!
EACH AND EVERY GIRL WHO WILL GO TO THE BEACH OR THE POOL, NOT JUST KAERE-CHAN...
WELL THEN, FOR THE SAKE OF A SOFT LANDING...
I THINK I'LL GO.
ME?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KOBUSHI-SAN? WILL YOU OR WON'T YOU?
PLEASE!

I'VE BEEN UPSTAGED.
WHAT, LIKE THIS?
SQUASH
IT WAS JUST A BATHING SUIT. AND JUST HALF.
PLEASE STOP SPOILING THE READERS!
THAT WAS MORE OF A HARD LANDING!
IT WAS A T-SHIRT WITH A NOTE SAYING, "YOU'LL LOOK GREAT IN THIS."
THERE WAS A PRESENT IN MY SHOE LOCKER FROM SOMEONE ANONYMOUS.
THIS IS TOO MUCH OF A HARD LANDING FOR ME!
I WONDER WHO COULD HAVE POSSIBLY GIVEN THAT TO YOU.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WEAR SUCH HIGH-FASHION GARMENTS!

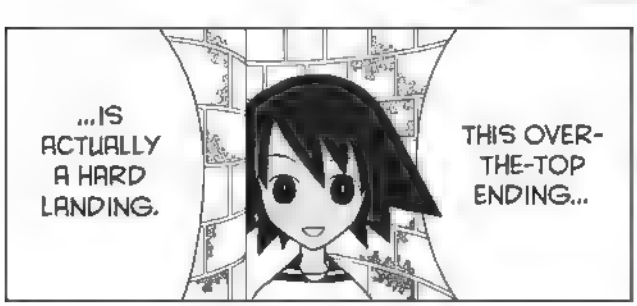
REALLY!?
YOUR STUDENTS CAN START VACATIONING ACCORDING TO YOUR SCHEDULE.
THE PRINCIPAL APPROVED YOUR PLAN.
ONE MORE THING.
わあっ
YAY
YOU HAVE ME TO THANK!
DID EVERY-ONE HEAR THAT?
Class 2-I Special Summer Vacation Schedule
Sun
Mon
Tue
Thu
Fri
Sat
One School Day
Two School Days
SCHOOL
9/1
Opening Ceremony
Assignment Due
SINCE IT WILL ALSO BE TOO SUDDEN TO START THE NEW SEMESTER RIGHT AWAY IN SEPTEMBER...
...WE'VE STARTED PROGRESSIVELY ADDING SCHOOL DAYS IN AUGUST LIKE THIS.
IT'S FINAL.
I'LL SUE YOU IN A BACK-ALLEY COURT!
Bald Freak
IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR HAVING STRANGE IDEAS!

SPLASH
GLUB


I'LL TAKE MY TIME, AND SLOWLY EASE YOU INTO IT.
I WON'T KILL YOU... TOO SUDDENLY.


IT'S A SOFT LANDING... TO YOUR DEATH!

JUST GET IT OVER WITH!!


...IS ACTUALLY A HARD LANDING.
THIS OVER-THE-TOP ENDING...

ARRGH!!
CRANK
CRANK
CRANK

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN
A SOFT LANDING SURVEY

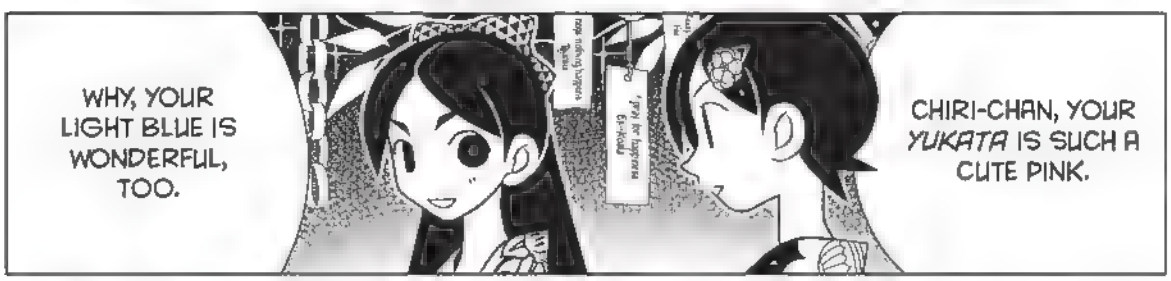
Q: WHICH GENRE DO YOU THINK KUMETA-SENSEI'S NEXT WORK SHOULD BE?

1) SPORTS (ENTIRELY SPORTS-ONLY)
2) LOVE COMEDY (WITHOUT INTERRUPTION)
3) FANTASY (VOLUMINOUS, SET ON EARTH)
4) A DRAMA ABOUT OVERCOMING ILLNESS
5) A STORY WHERE THE HEROINE DIES
6) A STORY WHERE THE HEROINE GETS PREGNANT
7) A BATTLE MANGA THAT ENDS AFTER 10 VOLUMES

MY EDITOR MR. TAKEDA ACTUALLY TOLD ME THAT HE THINKS I SHOULD DRAW A SOCCER MANGA. HE SAID THIS EVEN THOUGH HE HAS NO INTEREST IN READING IT!

CHAPTER 100

To Be Beautiful
We want iron Tire Chinese

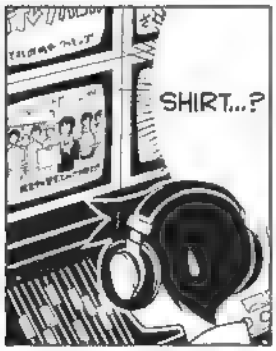

WHY, YOUR LIGHT BLUE IS WONDERFUL, TOO.
CHIRI-CHAN, YOUR *YUKATA* IS SUCH A CUTE PINK.

SENSEI.
YOU'VE GOTTEN GOOD AT SARCASM, I SEE.
TANABATA

I BET YOUR YUKATA WOULD LOOK GREAT IF THEY ACTUALLY HAD COLORS.
SO HOW DOES IT FEEL? HAVING PLANS FOR A COLORED 100TH CELEBRATORY CHAPTER GET CANCELED BECAUSE OF NEXT WEEK'S ANIME PROJECT?
WELL, WE'RE NOT EXACTLY OVER-JOYED.
BUT THERE'S REALLY NOTHING THAT CAN BE DONE.
FOR SOME REASON, HUMAN BEINGS FIND IT HARD TO FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND.
I, TOO, HAVE RECENTLY...
...BEEN UNABLE TO FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND!

IT'S REALLY HIGH, RIGHT?
I PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE POSITION OF KIMUTAKU'S MOUSTACHE THAN ON THE ACTUAL MOVIE!
"BIMBO...?"
BIMBO
I PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE BRAND NAMES ON THE PLAYERS' SHIRTS THAN ON THE ACTUAL MATCH!
...I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
ONCE I NOTICE SOMETHING UNUSUAL...
SUSPECT
"SORATA...?"
Sorata Suzuki
I PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE SUSPECT'S UNUSUAL NAME THAN ON THE DETAILS OF THE CRIME!
ARE YOU SERIOUS?
IN MY MIND, IT'S JUST THE "MOVIE WHERE KIMUTAKU'S MOUSTACHE IS REALLY HIGH."
I DON'T REMEMBER THE MAIN PLOT AT ALL.
IT HAPPENED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
AND WE'RE REPORTING LIVE FROM THE SCENE OF THE CRIME!
NEWS +1
LIVE
Cybernetic TV 74,500 Yen
Criminal's Escape Route
Current Location
Golden Ginza Arcade
Chiba TV
WE BELIEVE THAT THE CRIMINAL FOLLOWED THIS ROUTE TO ESCAPE.
KEEP OUT
KEE

NEWS +1
LIVE
e Officer Hit with a Shovel
KEEP


SHIRT...?

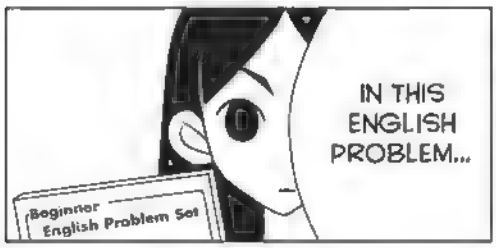
CERTAIN HAPPINESS CONCERT
WEIRD...

THAT...

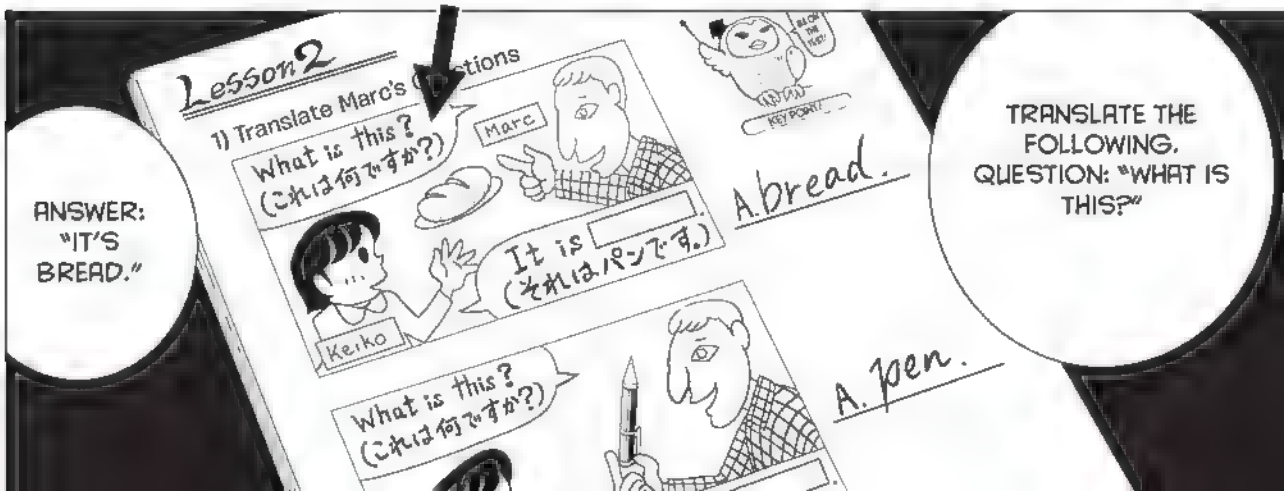
WHAT'S
⋮

A CRIME WHERE A BOY WEARING A WEIRD SHIRT WAS GLARING AT THE CAMERA.
THAT'S WRONG!!
WHAT KIND OF CRIME WAS IT AGAIN?

...BUT ONLY ON THE ODD SHIRT THAT BOY IN THE BACKGROUND IS WEARING!
I CAN'T FOCUS ON THE CRIME...


Beginner English Problem Set
IN THIS ENGLISH PROBLEM...

NEWS +t
KITSU-SAN, TOO?
ALTHOUGH I'M EMBARRASSED TO ADMIT IT, I GUESS THE SAME THING HAPPENS TO ME SOMETIMES.


Lesson 2
1) Translate Marc's
What is this? (これは何ですか?)
Marc
Keiko
It is (それはパンです。)
A bread.
KEY POINT
What is this? (これは何ですか?)
A pen.
ANSWER: "IT'S BREAD."
TRANSLATE THE FOLLOWING. QUESTION: "WHAT IS THIS?"

Lesson 2
1) Translate Marc's Questions
What is this?
(これは何ですか?)
Marc
It is
(それはパンです。)
HOW CAN HE NOT KNOW THAT IT'S BREAD!?

AH... THERE ARE SOME PROB-LEMS LIKE THAT.
FOR ME, THE PROBLEM OF MARC NOT KNOWING THAT IT'S BREAD IS GREATER THAN THE PROBLEM OF TRANSLATION.

What?
IT'S A LOAF OF FRIGGIN' BREAD!
WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID!?

PEOPLE WANT TO SEE IT ALL IN COLOR!
FEELING SORRY FOR YOURSELF AGAIN?
I CAN'T HELP BUT BE MORE INTERESTED IN THE ANIME AND VOICE ACTORS THAN IN THIS CHAPTER.

YOU SEE? PEOPLE FIND IT HARD TO FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND.

...PEOPLE WILL PAY ATTENTION TO THIS CHAPTER AFTER ALL!
NOW THAT THE ANIME IS THE MAIN FOCUS...

EVERY-THING WILL BE FINE.

I'VE LOST HOPE IN OUR NATIONAL CHARACTER OF NOT PAYING ATTENTION TO THE TASK AT HAND!
I'VE LOST HOPE!

I ADMIT THAT I'VE BEEN PAYING ATTENTION TO THINGS OTHER THAN THE TASK AT HAND.
HELLO.
ONE OF MY NEIGHBORS DIED RECENTLY.
KOBUSHI-SAN.
...WAS THE AMAZING ANIME VOICE OF THE CHIEF MOURNER!
AT THE FUNERAL, ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT...
AH... I CAN SEE HOW THAT MIGHT HAPPEN.
EVEN THOUGH I FELT AWFUL THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE THING, I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
ANYWAY, PEOPLE CAN'T HELP BUT NOT PAY ATTENTION TO THE TASK AT HAND!

- THE SUSPECT'S OBVIOUS WIG DRAWS MORE ATTENTION THAN THE CRIME
- PEOPLE CARE MORE ABOUT THE ORICON RANKING OF THE OPENING THEME THAN THEY DO ABOUT THE ACTUAL ANIME
- AFTER A TRAGEDY, HAVE YOU NOTICED HOW EXPERTS ON VARIOUS TOPICS (AIRPLANES, RAILROADS, MILITARY SPECIALISTS, ETC.) APPEARING ON TALK SHOWS ALL HAVE REALLY WEIRD PERSONALITIES?
- PEOPLE PAY MORE ATTENTION TO A FEMALE ASTRONAUT'S MUSTACHED HUSBAND THAN THEY DO TO HER
- INSTEAD OF THE BENTO BOX THAT SHE MADE FOR ME, WHAT'S THIS NEWSPAPER SHE WRAPPED IT IN...?
- MORE ATTENTION IS PAID TO HOW EBIZO ACTS LIKE A KABUKI ACTOR IN HIS EVERYDAY LIFE THAN TO HIS ACTUAL KABUKI
- THE HANDKERCHIEF INSTEAD OF THE BASEBALL GAME
- THE DIFFIDENCE INSTEAD OF THE GOLF GAME
- WHO CARES ABOUT VOLLEYBALL... HE'S IN JOHNNY'S!
- BECKHAM'S HANDSOME... BUT WHAT ABOUT HIS WEIRDLY HIGH VOICE?
- DID YOU SEE THE GASOLINE PRICE AT THE GAS STATION WHERE YUYA YAGIRA WAS WORKING IN WHATEVER MOVIE THAT WAS? (IT WAS SO CHEAP BACK THEN!)
- LOTS OF WOMEN COULD CARE LESS ABOUT THE WEDDING CEREMONY... CHECK OUT THE GROOM!
- A CERTAIN COUNTRY SEEMS TO CARE MORE ABOUT GETTING AHEAD OF JAPAN... AND LESS ABOUT HOW THE WORLD SEES IT.

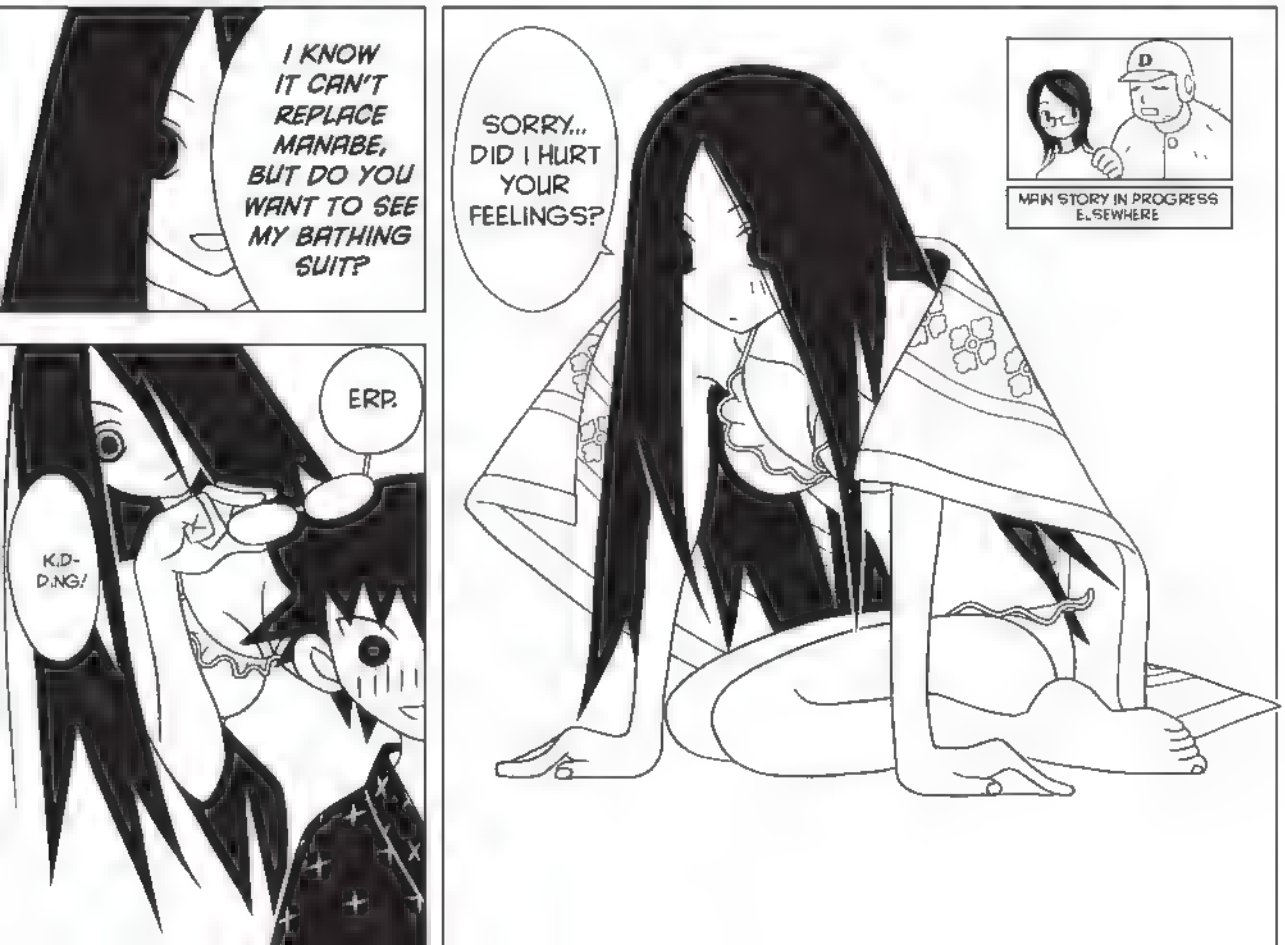
SOMETIMES I HAVE TROUBLE FOCUSING ON THE TASK AT HAND, TOO.
YES, IN FACT I'M ONTO SOMETHING.
YOU TOO, HITOU-SAN?
...NOR-MAL.
I WAS HAVING A CREPE...
FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE TROUBLE FOCUSING ON THE MAIN TOPIC...

...WE'RE TAKING A BREAK FROM THE MAIN STORY TO BRING YOU AN IRRELEVANT STORY ABOUT KOMORI-CHAN.
IT'S HERE.
TA-DA! IT'S A BATHING SUIT.
WHAT'D YOU BUY, STAY-AT-HOME SIS?
WHY WOULD I WANT TO?
TURN
I'M CHANGING, SO DON'T LOOK.
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
BUT SINCE YOU NEVER LEAVE THE HOUSE, YOU NEVER GO TO A POOL OR THE OCEAN.
WIGGLE WIGGLE
I WANT TO WEAR IT ANYWAY.
1

WHY WOULD I WANT TO LOOK AT A LITTLE GIRL'S BODY?
WH-...
YOU LOOKED, DIDN'T YOU.
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
むっ
HEH
OH THAT'S RIGHT. MANABE'S* MORE YOUR TYPE, ISN'T SHE?

* KAORI MANABE

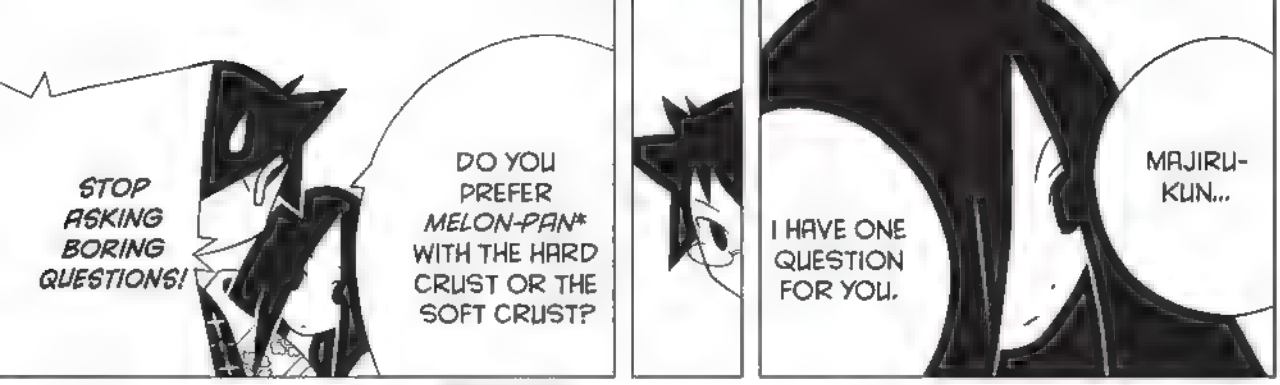
* KIRIN IS A JAPANESE COMEDY GROUP


I KNOW IT CAN'T REPLACE MANABE, BUT DO YOU WANT TO SEE MY BATHING SUIT?
SORRY... DID I HURT YOUR FEELINGS?
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
ERP.
K.D-D.NG!

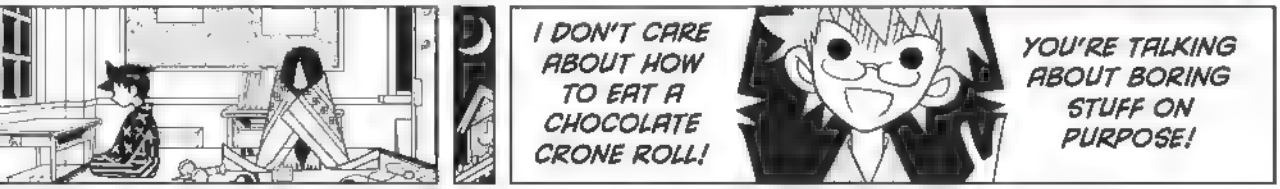
CONFISCATED.

MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
SHAFT
DID I GAIN A LITTLE WEIGHT?
BLUSH
ぼーっ

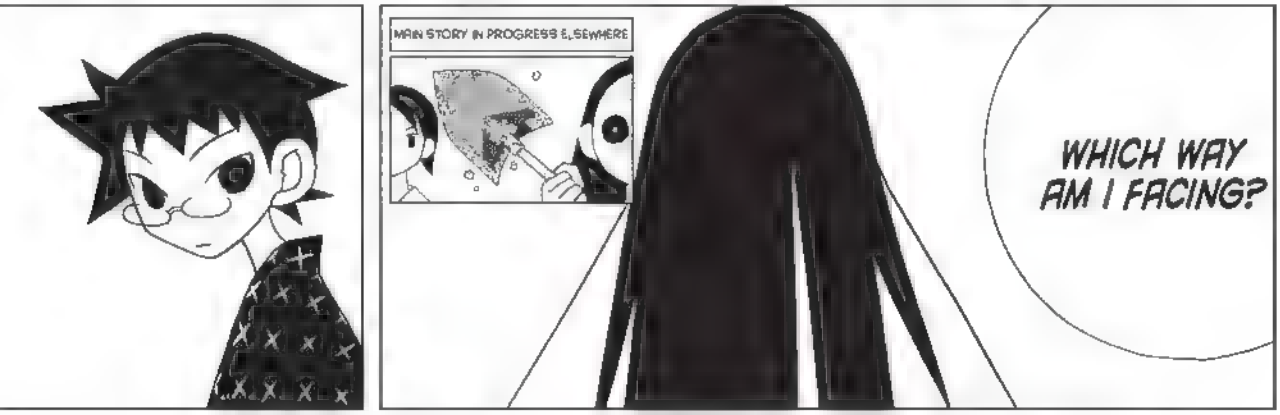
* ANPAN IS A SWEET BUN FILLED WITH RED BEAN PASTE. IN TSUBUAN, THE RED BEANS ARE BOILED IN SUGAR AND IN KOSHIAN THEY ARE PASSED THROUGH A SIEVE TO REMOVE SKINS.


MAJIRU-KUN...
I HAVE ONE QUESTION FOR YOU.
DO YOU PREFER *MELON-PAN** WITH THE HARD CRUST OR THE SOFT CRUST?
STOP ASKING BORING QUESTIONS!

* MELON BREAD


YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT BORING STUFF ON PURPOSE!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT HOW TO EAT A CHOCOLATE CRONE ROLL!

FLIP
TURN
TURN


WHICH WAY AM I FACING?
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE

MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
WAMP-WAMP
THIS SIDE!
YOU'RE FACING THIS WAY!

I WAS FACING SIDEWAYS.
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
THIS STORY'S REALLY BORING.
I WAS SIDE-WAYS.
THAT'S CHEAT-ING!
MAIN STORY IN PROGRESS ELSEWHERE
WE'RE NEVER REALLY GOING BACK TO THE MAIN STORY.
IT WAS FANTASTIC, SENSEI.
WOW, THIS CHAPTER TURNED OUT REALLY BRILLIANTLY.
... WE'LL SCRAP EVERYTHING WE'VE DONE SO FAR!
BUT IF THIS TURNS OUT MORE POPULAR THAN THE NORMAL STORIES...

THEY DO? REALLY?
This paper an irrelevant story
Shonen Magazine Survey
Total Results
100
THUMP, THUMP
すぅ
すぅ
HOW DISPARAGING... PEOPLE ACTUALLY PREFER IRRELEVANT STORIES.

CURRENT CHARGES FROM THIS ISSUE

LETTER OF ACCUSATION

PLAINTIFF:
OCCUPATION: STUDENT
NAMES: KAERE KIMURA

DEFENDANT: NOZOMU ITOSHIKI
OCCUPATION: HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER
NAME: NOZOMU ITOSHIKI

DATE: MAY 30
ATTN: SCHOOL BOARD

- PURPOSE OF ACCUSATION

THESE CHARGES ARE REGISTERED TO REQUEST THAT HARSH PUNISHMENT BE DEALT TO THE DEFENDANT FOR HIS ACTIONS BELOW.

- FACTS OF THE ACCUSATION

THE DEFENDANT LED THE STUDENTS OF HIS CLASS, AROUND THE END OF MAY, TO A LOCATION OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL FOR A LESSON. AS HE BECAME QUITE IMPASSIONED DURING THE DELIVERY OF THIS LESSON, IT WENT OVER THE ALLOTTED TIME, AND THE STUDENTS WERE LED TO A DESTINATION FURTHER AWAY THAN THEY HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR.

AFTER THIS, THE DEFENDANT LOST HIS WAY BACK TO THE SCHOOL, AND WANDERED AROUND DAISAN SENTAKU CITY FOR SEVERAL HOURS WITH HIS STUDENTS, LEAVING THE ENTIRE CLASS WORN OUT AND IN A STATE OF DISTRESS.

AS A RESULT, WHILE SEVERAL STUDENTS SUFFERED DAMAGES TO THEIR EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH DUE TO ANXIETY, THE DEFENDANT FAILED TO CONTACT THESE STUDENTS' GUARDIANS AND REFUSED TO ADMIT RESPONSIBILITY FOR HAVING LED THEM INTO ANOTHER PREFECTURE, AND SIMPLY RESPONDED TO PROTESTS FROM THE STUDENTS WITH VERBAL MEANDERINGS.

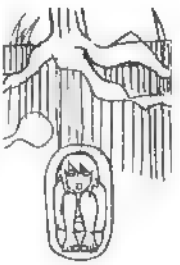
THIS INCIDENT HAS LED ME TO FEEL UNCERTAINTY AS TO THE DEFENDANT'S LEADERSHIP ABILITIES AS AN EDUCATOR, AND I MUST FORMALLY REGISTER THIS COMPLAINT IN REGARDS TO HIS PERSISTENT ATTITUDE OF AVOIDING RESPONSIBILITY, WHICH IS A FAR CRY FROM THE LOFTY IDEAL OF AN EDUCATOR.

IT IS WITH HOPES THAT THE SCHOOL BOARD WILL NOW CONDUCT A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE DEFENDANT NOZOMU ITOSHIKI'S QUALIFICATIONS AS AN EDUCATOR, AND CLARIFY ITS POSITION ON BOTH HIS ABILITIES AND PERSONALITY, THAT I HEREBY SUBMIT THIS COMPLAINT.

MEANS OF AUTHENTICATION
STANDBY OBSERVER CLASS 2-F

PAPER BLOGS

17 YEARS IN THE EARTH



I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL LIKE I'M LIVING LIKE A CICADA. CICADAS HAVE STINK BUG EYES. I HAVE GROUND BEETLE EYES.
CICADAS WERE IN THE GROUND FOR 17 YEARS AND I WAS THERE FOR SEVEN YEARS. I WAS IN CONSTANT REGRET ABOUT EVERY SERIES I WAS WORKING ON FOR DIFFERENT MAGAZINES. THE EARTH WAS MADE OF LAYERS OF REGRET UPON REGRET. I SPENT 17 YEARS THERE.
AFTER I CRAWLED OUT, THE SOIL WAS JUST AS POLLUTED. AFTER EMERGING, CICADAS LIVE FOR ONE WEEK AND THEN DIE... I'M LIKELY TO DIE ANY ONE OF THESE DAYS TOO.
THE SUMMER DAYS OF EXUBERANCE OVER THE ANIME ADAPTATION WILL SOON BE OVER. THE SUMMER DAYS WILL BE OVER, AND I'M SURE A LONG SUMMER VACATION WILL BEGIN.
IT'S ENOUGH ALREADY.
"HAVE I REACHED MY GOALS?"
COACH: "WE'LL TALK LATER."

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

DAILY WAGE 1,000 YEN

IT'S A PRACTICE RUN FOR MY LONG SUMMER VACATION. I FIND MYSELF SPACING OUT A LOT RECENTLY. THE OTHER DAY I WENT TO BIG CAMERA AND HUNG OUT IN THE VIDEO GAME AREA. SUDDENLY A STORE ATTENDANT YELLED, "WE GOT A LAST MINUTE SHIPMENT OF WIIS! IF YOU'D LIKE TO BUY ONE, LINE UP OVER HERE!" I WATCHED EVERYONE GET IN LINE.
SINCE I ACTUALLY BOUGHT A WII ON THE FIRST DAY IT CAME OUT (THIS IS THE ONLY ACCOMPLISHMENT I'M PROUD OF FROM LAST YEAR), I PUFFED MY CHEST WITH A SENSE OF SUPERIORITY AND CASUALLY WATCHED AS PEOPLE LINED UP. THEN, A CHINESE MAN CAME UP TO ME AND SAID IN BROKEN JAPANESE, "YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BUY A WII? IF YOU LINE UP AND BUY ONE FOR ME, I'LL BUY IT OFF YOU FOR AN EXTRA 1,000 YEN!"
...SO I CAME THIS CLOSE TO BEING HIRED OUT BY A CHINESE GUY FOR 1,000 YEN!
AHH... LOOKING CLOSELY, ALL THE PEOPLE IN LINE WERE ON THEIR LONG SUMMER VACATIONS. THAT'S WHY THE KIDS COULDN'T GET IN.

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

TSUNDEREI

I WAS SITTING STARING AT THE BLADES OF MY FAN WHEN I REMEMBERED SOMETHING. WHEN I WAS A KID WE HAD A FAN AT HOME CALLED "SUZUKAZE."
WHAT WOULD SUZUKAZE'S CHILD BE NAMED? THIS IS ALL I CAN THINK OF THESE DAYS. IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE THIS STRONG FEELING I'LL BE ASKED TO GIVE A NAME.
IF IT'S A GIRL... SUZUKA? ...SUZUKO? ...SUJIKA? HMM, I GUESS DEFINITELY NOT SUJIKA. SHE'D GET BULLIED.
BUT WAIT, EVEN IF I'M ASKED TO NAME THE CHILD, I HAVE TO THINK OF A NAME THAT SUZUKAZE WOULD HAVE PICKED. SINCE SUZUKAZE IS A GIRL WITH BIG DREAMS, SHE MIGHT ACTUALLY CHOOSE A CRINGE-WORTHY NAME.

SHE MIGHT FORCE SOME STRANGE READINGS FROM KANJI, LIKE READING "佳音" AS "CANNON" OR "摘日鈴" AS "TSUNDEREI," OR "紅蘭風" AS "CLAMP."
IF IT'S A BOY, PLEASE DON'T PLAY THE WHOLE WIND CONNECTION AND NAME HIM SOMETHING LIKE "疾風" (READ "HAYATE"). HE'LL GROW UP WITH NO MANNERS. I'M SURE OF IT. YES, I'M ABSOLUTELY SURE.
HALF A DAY WENT BY OF ME THINKING LIKE THIS. I'VE DECIDED TO TAKE THE NAME OF THE CHILD OF SUZUKAZE THAT I THOUGHT OF WITH ME TO THE GRAVE.

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

FOGGY VISION

EVEN THOUGH I HAVEN'T ENTERED MY LONG SUMMER VACATION YET, I'M BEEN SPACING OUT WAY TOO MUCH.
I'M TALKING WITH PEOPLE AND CAN'T THINK OF THE WORDS FOR THINGS.
IT TOOK ME A HALF A DAY JUST TO REMEMBER MAEDA-KUN'S LAST NAME. IT'S SENILITY, I TELL YOU.
I'M WEARING OLD T-SHIRTS INSIDE OUT, DIFFERENT SHOES ON EACH FOOT, AND RIGHT WHEN I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS WEIRD WITH MY VISION IT TURNED OUT ONE OF THE LENSES ON MY GLASSES HAD COME OUT.
I'VE COME OFF MY AXIS AS A HUMAN BEING.
I WAS ASKED AT A CONVENIENCE STORE, "DID A BOMB EXPLODE OR SOMETHING?"
APPARENTLY, AS A WAY OF AVOIDING COMING UP AT A LOSS FOR WORDS, TV ANNOUNCERS PRACTICE GIVING PLAY-BY-PLAYS OF THEIR EVERYDAY ACTIONS.
THAT'S IT!
I'VE DECIDED TO DO THE SAME THING TO STOP ME FROM SPACING OUT.
I'M BEGINNING MY PLAY-BY-PLAY.
KOJI KUMETA STANDS UP SLOWLY AND PUTS ON HIS SHOES. HE OPENS THE DOOR WITH HIS RIGHT HAND, AND LEAVES THE ROOM. KOJI KUMETA GOES INTO THE HALLWAY. HE TURNS TO THE RIGHT! HE GOES DOWN THE STAIRS! KOJI KUMETA GOES BACK TO HIS ROOM TO GET HIS WALLET. NOW HE HAS HIS WALLET. AND HE'S FORGOTTEN WHY HE LEFT IN THE FIRST PLACE. HE REMEMBERS THAT HE HAD WANTED TO GO TO THE CONVENIENCE STORE. HE ARRIVES AT THE STORE. HE FORGETS WHAT IT WAS HE WANTED TO BUY. FOR SOME REASON HE BUYS A SABLA. HE FORGETS TO BUY LUNCH.
UGH, I'M SICK OF THIS ALREADY. GOODBYE EVERYONE!
KOJI KUMETA GENTLY WAVES HIS RIGHT HAND AND DISAPPEARS INTO THE DARKNESS.
HE DISAPPEARS INTO THE DEEP, DEEP DARKNESS!
GOODBYE KOJI KUMETA! GOODBYE!

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

TO MYSELF AT 15

IN THE WORDS OF A CERTAIN WILDLY-SELLING JUMP ARTIST, "I'M ALWAYS MAKING MANGA WITH MYSELF AT 15 AS THE TARGET AUDIENCE."
IF I TRIED TO DRAW FOR MYSELF AT 15, WE'D BE IN BIG TROUBLE. ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT DAY AND NIGHT WHEN I WAS 15 WERE WOMEN'S BODIES. RUNNING AWAY WITH TIGHTS THAT I STOLE! RUNNING AWAY (EVEN THOUGH I DIDN'T STEAL THEM). THAT WAS HOW I SPENT MY NIGHTS WHEN I WAS 15.
IT WOULD BY NECESSITY BECOME A HUGE ADVENTURE EPIC ABOUT WOMEN'S BODIES.
"I'LL BE THE KING OF THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT!"
I WOULD GET A GOMUGOMU FRUIT FROM A GOMUGOMU VENDING MACHINE, THEN GET SCANDALOUS PHOTOS OF WOMEN'S BODIES MOSTLY FROM SWEDEN, THEN ENTER INTO THE "ABSOLUTE TERRITORY" KNOWN AS THE GRAND LINE (BETWEEN THE KNEE-HIGH SOCKS AND THE SKIRT), AND THEN GET THE HIDDEN JEWEL. I WOULD GET THE HIDDEN JEWEL!!
SO THE PARADOX WOULD BE THAT IF I DREW FOR MYSELF AT 15, IT WOULD END UP BEING AN OVER-18-ONLY SERIES. I'VE COME TO A POINT IN MY LIFE WHERE IT'S EVEN HARD FOR ME TO USE ADULT THEMES ANY MORE. BUT I'LL SHRUG OFF MY FAILURES, SO IF MS. KIKUKO WILL BE AN ETERNAL 17-YEAR-OLD, I'LL BE FOREVER OVER-18-ONLY! ♡

...SORRY BABY, I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT.

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

ANIME UNIVERSITY. NIGHT CLASSES.

AFTER MY SERIES GOT ANIMATED, SOME PEOPLE HAVE SAID THAT I'VE BEEN "ACTING REALLY HAPPY." IN FACT, I HAVE. I KNOW, IT'S LUDICROUS, RIGHT? IT MIGHT BE LUDICROUS FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF A MANGA ARTIST WHOSE FIRST SERIALIZED WORK GOT ANIMATED AND AIRED IN THE MAIN NETWORKS. FOR ME, IT'S LIKE FINALLY GETTING ACCEPTING INTO AN ANIME UNIVERSITY AFTER 17 YEARS OF RETAKING THE TEST.
AND STILL, I'M HAPPY. I'D BE HAPPY EVEN IF IT WAS A LOCAL ANIME UNIVERSITY AND I WAS GOING TO NIGHT CLASSES. HOWEVER, THIS HAS GIVEN RISE TO A MORE DANGEROUS SCENARIO. MY DEPRESSION HAS BECOME MANIC DEPRESSION. MY MOOD SWINGS HAVE GOTTEN LARGER. THEY'RE FLYING ALL OVER THE PLACE/ THE LENGTH OF THE PENDULUM SWINGING BETWEEN DEPRESSION AND MANIA HAS BECOME LARGER, AND I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF.
BACK IN THE DAY I WOULD HAVE JUST CONTEMPLATED SUICIDE, BUT NOW I SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE FLYING/
PEOPLE SAY THAT NOTHING CAN BE DONE ONCE YOU'VE SERVED OUT HEAVEN'S WILL. THEY SAY YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT DESTINY. IN THAT CASE, SUICIDE IS THE LIFETIME OF THE SOUL. I'VE SERVED OUT THE WILL OF MY SOUL. IT'S MY NATURAL LIFE. THE SOUL HAS IT'S OWN NATURAL LIFE.
PUT ANOTHER WAY, PEOPLE CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT ACTIVELY TRYING TO. IT TAKES EFFORT TO EAT FOOD AND DRINK WATER, AND THAT'S HOW WE LIVE. SLACKING OFF ON THESE EFFORTS LEADS US TO DIE.
I CAN SEE MY GAPPELDONGER (IT'S ME FROM MY DOPPELGANGER'S PERSPECTIVE). WHICH WILL BE STRONGER, THE GAPPELDONGER OR THE DOPPELGANGER?
WHICH CAME FROM THE FUTURE, THE GAPPELDONGER OR THE DOPPELGANGER? IS THE GAPPELDONGER "ACTING HAPPY?" WHAT ABOUT THE DOPPELGANGER?
MY BAGGELDONGER HAS APPEARED.
MY BAGGELDONGER SAID TO ME, "BOTH OF YOU ARE ACTING HAPPY."
"SO ARE YOU."

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

PORORO-PAIN

THERE ARE TOO MANY THINGS THAT DISAPPOINT ME WHEN I'M THIS HAPPY. WHEN PEOPLE SEND ME ANIMAGE MAGAZINE WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO ZETSUBOU-SENSEI, WHEN THERE'S A LONG INTERVIEW WITH GORO MIYAZAKI IN THAT ISSUE, WHEN PEOPLE WHO'VE POROROCA'ED FROM THE ANIME TELL ME THE "ORIGINAL MANGA IS BORING," OR WHEN PEOPLE WHO'VE POROROCA'ED FROM THE VOICE ACTORS TELL ME THAT "THE CHARACTER YOU DREW DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT VOICED BY ___," OR WHEN THAT VOICE ACTOR TELLS ME THAT "KAIZO WAS ACTUALLY FUNNIER."
WHEN LIFE THROWS YOU UP AND THEN PUSHES YOU DOWN, IT'S EASY TO BECOME MANIC-DEPRESSIVE. MY BEKKELDONGER APPEARS. HE PUSHES MY HAND. HE PUSHES THE HAND THAT DRAWS THIS MANGA.
I CAN'T DRAW STRAIGHT LINES. WHEN I DRAW STRAIGHT LINES, THE BEKKELDONGER APPEARS AND MESSES IT UP.
I FEEL LIKE I'M LIVING LIKE A CICADA. IT'S ALMOST THE END OF MY SOUL'S NATURAL LIFE. I'LL BE HIRED BY THE CHINESE FOR 1,000 YEN. I'LL TAKE SUZUKAZE'S DAUGHTER'S NAME WITH ME TO THE GRAVE. I CAN SEE MY GAPPELDONGER.
EARTH WHICH HAS BEEN COMPACTED BY REGRET UPON REGRET EVENTUALLY BECOMES AN ACTIVE FAULT ZONE, AND SUCKS ME UP IN ONE PIECE. GOODBYE, KOJI KUMETA/ GOODBYE/

ARTICLE URL | COMMENTS (0) | TRACKBACK (0)

Since we were completely ignored by anime magazines, I made my own!

RECOMMENDED!
From now on, we would like to conduct foreign relations with manga and anime.

Kitchiri, Kafka, and Meru are three girls who are looking forward to their bright and dazzling new semester at school.

When "Masked Teacher Zetsubou" wall appears out of nowhere, they press their heads against him and ask him, "isn't there a medicine that works for despair?" In order to defeat the Masked Teacher who acts like he owns the place, the girls obtain the power to transform into the legendary earphone knights "Lillicure" ...all with generous doses of sophistry.

DRIVE AWAY DESPAIR!!

Normal

A normal girl.
She has no powers, but always ends up falling into the enemy's traps and providing a starting point for the stories.
She wants to be a cameraman.

Kafka

She's better at her special skills than at performing magic. When she performs her alluring dance or chants, the evil spirits of the mountains and forests are basically at her whim. It seems like something big might happen if she takes off her headband.

Meru

She's better at psychological attacks using her cell phone than she is at magic. If she doesn't get reception, she doesn't do anything.

Kitchiri

She's more talented with her shovel than she is with magic. Due to her precise and methodical personality, she hates wishy-washy enemies. Basically ignores the small fries. Only deals with the boss-sized enemies. Sees the world in extreme black-and-white.
Things she hates: Late-evening sunshine

CHECK!
Kitchiri-chan's all-purpose shovel. It's been remade into a heart shape for improved stabbing. Stab, carve, smash.

ZETSUBOU SENSEI

Late Nights on Depression Day Every Week
Chiba Inside-my-brain TV
TV God
TV Soul
Planet MX TV
Zun TV

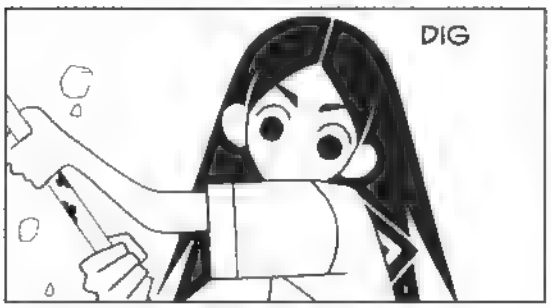
HIGHLIGHT
That penguin actually becomes a man. Another one appears later, too.

The girls leave on a journey prowling around every corner of the town in search of the Masked Teacher's weakness, the "giant candy drop that appears if you collect 12,000 Jintan candy drops that the mysterious 'penguin who becomes a hot guy' dropped all over the place."

ZETSUBOU LITERARY COMPILATION
CRIME AND REJECTION

People chosen at the top of lotteries have the right to disregard morals, ethics, and publication codes. Even evil can be forgiven to increase sales. People like this continue to rule the publishing world. Manga artists outside of this world continue to create their mediocre works, just barely managing to keep serialized. How much longer will I have to be the latter? Knowing that it's an unrealistic plan, I acknowledge my sin and brought my pen to the paper. However, even the moe-e that I thought was very well drawn met with rejection. The words of readers in front of the Akihabara train station rung in my head. "Kiss the earth. And scream to the people of the world... I've catered to you!" The thing stuck in my heart became softer, and the tears poured out.

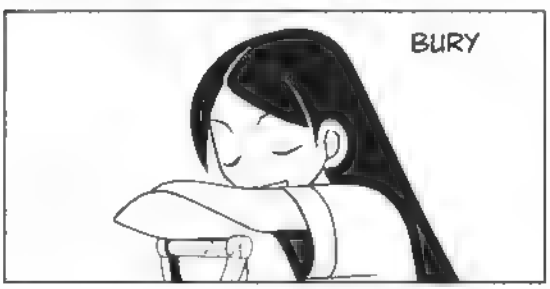
PRECISION SHOVEL
THE SHOVEL THAT CAN DO ANYTHING
CHIRICHIRICHIRI CHIRICHIRI


DIG

STAB

SMASH

CUT


BURY

CARVE

Translation Notes

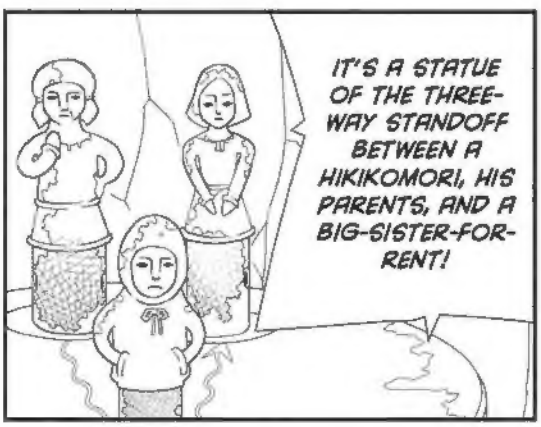
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. In the case of a text-dense manga like *Sayonara, Zetsubou-sensei*, it's a delicate art indeed. Although most of the jokes are universal, Koji Kumeta is famous for filling his manga with references to Japanese politics, entertainment, otaku culture, religion and sports. Unless you're a true Japanophile, it's difficult to understand it all without some serious background knowledge of current events at the time when the manga was running. Kumeta also uses references to foreign literature and politics, so even Japanese readers probably don't get all the humor. For your reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the more obscure references and difficult-to-translate jokes in *Sayonara, Zetsubou-Sensei*.

Kitsune-ken, page 8

Literally "fox-fist," kitsune-ken is a traditional game similar to rock-paper-scissors, but the three hand positions signify a fox, a hunter, and a village headman. The headman beats the hunter, whom he outranks; the hunter beats the fox, whom he shoots; the fox beats the headman, whom he bewitches.

Hikikomori, big-sister-for-rent, page 12

Literally "pulling away, being confined," hikikomori is a Japanese term to refer to people, often young adults, who have chosen to withdraw from social life and isolate themselves completely from society. As an initiative to help people suffering in this way, various private and public initiatives have started "sibling for rent" services where young people visit hikikomori and talk with them.



Enka, page 26

Enka is a popular Japanese music genre considered to resemble traditional Japanese music stylistically. Modern enka, however, arose in the Postwar period and commonly contains expressions of modern Japanese nonmaterial nationalism.

...WITHOUT EVEN BREAKING A SWEAT!
THIS IS, AFTER ALL, THE SAME GIRL WHO RAN STRAIGHT TO ARIAKE THAT TIME THE TRAIN BROKE DOWN IN AKI-HABARA...

From Ariake to Akihabara, page 27

Ariake is an area near Tokyo Bay where many conventions, including manga and anime conventions, are held. Akihabara is considered the "Otaku City" of Tokyo, and is also a hub for electronics shops. These two locations are approximately 5.3 miles apart.

New semester, page 51

In case you were wondering, the school year and fiscal year in Japan begin in April, hence all the references to new beginnings.

May Sickness, page 65

Since the school year and fiscal year begin on April 1 in Japan, "May sickness" refers to people growing weary of their new routines.

Fixed Sumo Matches, page 69

Scandal in the sumo world is of particular sensitivity to the Japanese because of the high status of sumo as a cultural heritage and national sport. Since 2007, when this manga was originally printed, to the present day several instances of fixed matches coming to light have rocked the sumo world.

Cliff-edge sensei, page 71

In November, 2006, the female dog Rinrin was discovered stuck on a cliff in Tokushima prefecture and made national news. Many people saw her story on TV and offered to adopt her.

Miko at a Buddhist temple, kami page 114

Historically, miko meant a "female shaman, spirit medium" who conveyed oracles from kami ("spirits; gods"), and presently means a "shrine maiden; virgin consecrated to a deity" who serves at Shinto shrines. Since miko and kami are both Shinto terms, Chiri is angered that they appear in a Buddhist shrine.

Tsundere, tsunwabi, page 116

A Japanese character development process that describes a person who is initially cold and even hostile towards another person before gradually showing their warm side over time. The word is derived from the terms tsun-tsun meaning to "turn away in disgust," and dere-dere, meaning "lovey dovey." Tsundere characters have a strong following among otaku.

"Tsun-wabi" in this case is a pun combining tsundere and owabi, which means "apology" (so a person who is initially hostile, and then profusely apologetic).

Aoi Miyazaki, page 125

A Japanese actress best known for her pure image and roles such as in Nana and Virgin Snow. Because of this pure image, it caused great shock to her fans when she suddenly announced her marriage at the age of 22.

Yukata, page 133

A casual summer kimono usually made of cotton. People wearing yukata are a common sight in Japan at fireworks displays, bon-odori festivals, and other summer events.